THE TIMES

35P

No. 65,828 TUESDAY MARCH 4 1997



RISE AND FALL OF MARGARET THATCHER

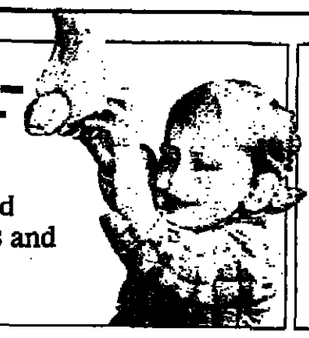
Lord McAlpine tells the inside story of a Tory iconoclast PAGE 15



THE ENGLISH PATIENT

See it first, see it free

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CHILDREN – THE GREAT DIVIDERS

The battleground between parents and the rest PAGE 14



DISAFFECTED DORA WRITES

Libby Purves on crass attempts to categorise women PAGE 16

Health warning to 300,000 people

Tap water is threatened by pollution

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

TAP WATER is increasingly threatened with contamination by a microscopic parasite which causes sickness as water companies try to maintain supplies after two years of drought, experts said yesterday.

Many companies are dropping pressure to reduce leaks and conserve dwindling reserves and this, say officials at the Department of the Environment, increases the risk of *cryptosporidium* penetrating the water network from the soil.

The news comes as 300,000 people in Hertfordshire and north London were yesterday told to boil tap water after an outbreak of the infection.

More than 30 people have suffered from diarrhoea in recent weeks after becoming infected. The illness can be fatal to some vulnerable people. Three schools were closed in the London Borough of Barnet. The level of infection is six times higher than health officials would normally expect.

Another reason for the increased risk is that farmers, trying to reduce moisture losses, are spreading more muck. This may be increasing the risk of *cryptosporidium*, which is often found in animal manures, contaminating supplies after heavy rains wash the pollution into rivers. Boreholes, traditionally free from the parasite, may now also be at greater risk.

Cryptosporidium is normally filtered out by the chalk layers above underground sources. But the dry weather may be making the land so parched that cracks are forming allowing it to infiltrate supplies.



"You spoil that goldfish"

There is also concern that because of the shortages some companies might be exploiting resources which in the past they may have deemed too dirty. But Dr Bob Breach of the water industry's Joint Drinking Water Group, said such claims were speculative.

He said there was no evidence that outbreaks of *cryptosporidium* were rising during the drought. Dr Breach said water companies were managing pressures but said they were not being reduced enough to cause penetration of the mains. However Dr John Fawell, principal toxicologist at the Water Research Centre in Henley-on-Thames, said that managing pressures to ensure that contamination was kept at bay was "very difficult".

Yesterday Government and Three Valleys Water Company inspectors and local health officials, were trying to find the source of the outbreak. Leaflets were being delivered to 300,000 customers. A spokesman for Three Valley said traces of the pest have been found in several boreholes between Bushey and St Albans. But tests on tap water, carried out on March 1, found no trace of *cryptosporidium*.

The parasite can be picked up from farm animals and pets and betransmitted in food and from person to person at swimming pools.

Ofwat, the water regulator, said yesterday that they would order compensation for customers if the company has been found to be lax. The organisation is also able to prosecute a company supplying unfit water.

There are between 5,000 and 10,000 cases of *cryptosporidiosis* in Britain annually but only a few are linked with water supplies. The biggest outbreak due to contaminated water supplies was in 1989 when 500 cases were confirmed in the Swindon and North Humberside areas. Since then a small number of other outbreaks have been investigated by the inspectorate but the results have been inconclusive.

Testing for *cryptosporidium* is not mandatory because, in 1989 when the water regulations came into force, little was known about it.

Dr Stuttaford, page 2



Happy match: Bishop Santer and Sabine Bird at his home in Birmingham yesterday after their announcement of a late spring wedding

Bishop to marry divorcée in register office

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Bishop of Birmingham, the Right Rev Mark Santer, announced yesterday that he is to marry a divorcée who was a friend of his first wife, Henriette, who died three years ago from cancer.

The bishop, 60, will marry Dresden-born Sabine Bird, 58, a probation worker, at a register office in late spring. The ceremony will be followed by a private service of prayer.

The marriage will double the size of their respective families and help to heal a period of tragedy and bereavement for the bishop. Mrs Santer was respected throughout the community as a clinical psychologist and chairman of the South Birmingham Mental Health Trust.

Careful thought was given to Bishop Santer's plans at the highest levels of Church and State because of the sensitivity over the question of divorce. It is understood that both the Queen and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, were consulted. Dr Carey yesterday wished them "every rich blessing and happiness together".

Bishop Santer is thought to be the first diocesan bishop to marry a divorcée. The official policy of the Church of England is that marriage is for life and a church wedding is not sanctioned where a previous spouse is living. However, recent indications are that the Church could be softening its line. Many believe that the way is being cleared for the Prince of Wales to remarry, should he so wish.

Mrs Bird, who has three adult children and four grandchildren, was divorced by mutual consent from her first husband, a retired GP, in 1983.

Bishop Santer, who also has three adult children and is expecting his first grandchild in July, said: "Sabine was one of my first wife's closest friends, so we have known each other for many years. We are both surprised and delighted by this new turn of events."

Mrs Bird, who has a degree in English literature from Birmingham University, said: "I am not surprised that we have fallen together but I am surprised about the media attention."

Steve Jenkins, for the Church of England, said: "I cannot recall something like this happening before, but there is nothing in canon law that would prevent it."

Clergy clash, page 5

Match fixing trial jury sent home

The jury in the football match fixing trial was sent home for the night by a judge at Winchester Crown Court yesterday, after considering their verdict for several hours.

Footballers Bruce Grobbelaar, John Fashanu and Hans Segers and Malaysian businessman Heng Suan Lim have pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Elvis perfume court battle

A former barrow boy took on America's Presley industry in the High Court over the right to sell Elvis embossed soap and perfume in Britain.

Sid Shaw, is appealing against a ruling in the Trademarks Registry in favour of Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc of Memphis. Page 3

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Clarke diverts spotlight to 'fighting fit' Britain

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE tried to dispel deepening Conservative Party gloom last night with the claim that Britain was "fighting fit" and facing the best economic prospects for a generation.

In a determined attempt to move the political debate away from Europe and on to the economy, the Chancellor pointed to a range of factors which he said gave reason for great optimism about the country's future.

But he promised that in spite of consumer confidence being at its highest for eight years, savings historically high and public finances healthy, he would not take his eye off the ball and take risks with the recovery.

He was, he said, keeping a careful watch on rising house prices and the windfalls from building society mergers and conversions — clearly implying that he would not hesitate to put up interest rates if things got out of control.

Mr Clarke was being resolutely upbeat, returning to what the Tories regard as their best electoral card and trying to rally MPs who are downcast by the magnitude of last week's crushing Conservative defeat at Wirral South and fresh confusion over the single currency sparked by Stephen Dorrell.

The Tory high command, including Mr Clarke, was forced to issue repeated denials yesterday that an undercover contest for the Conservative leadership was already under way, after what seemed obvious recent attempts to strain the Cabinet line on monetary union by the Health Secretary and Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary. Mr Dorrell issued a statement on Sunday accepting that British participation had not been ruled out in early 1999 — only 150 minutes after saying that it had.

The confusion and disarray has blunted the Tory fightback after Wirral. But yesterday Mr Major again called senior ministers and officials to Downing Street for another election-planning session, including a fresh look at the manifesto.

They will try to get back on the offensive with new attacks this week, including one today from William Waldegrave, the Treasury Chief Secretary, on Labour's spending plans.

The Chancellor's allies,

Continued on page 2, col 5

Peter Riddell, page 8
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Albania cuts TV link with world

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

PRESIDENT BERISHA of Albania last night blacked out television coverage of the mass unrest in the country, banning the BBC and other international media from sending pictures and clamping down on domestic coverage.

State-controlled television was restricted yesterday to repeated showings of the President's re-election by Tirana's rubber-stamp parliament.

The ban followed the declaration of a state of emergency. Tirana was able to enforce the blackout by halting the only satellite television feed from the capital. The European Broadcasting Union link, serving about 25 Western companies and channels including the BBC, was shut down at 5.30 GMT.

The BBC, whose radio broadcasts in Albanian have become a vital source of news in the country, announced yesterday that it was extending its short-wave broadcasts, following the closure of its FM transmitter on Mount Dajti in central Albania. Starting yesterday, three daily short-wave broadcasts were added from Britain and Cyprus.

The BBC rejected allegations by Pavli Qesku, the Albanian Ambassador to London, who accused it of inciting violence. The BBC said it had scrupulously observed its tradition of impartiality, balance and fairness.

The International Press Institute condemned Albania's move to restrict press freedom as unacceptable.

Last night Italian military helicopters evacuated 36 people from the southern city of Vlore, including 20 Italians.

Albania crackdown, page 11
Richard Owen, page 16
Photograph, page 26

Mortgages especially for directors and the self employed ...and no details of income needed!

FINDING A MORTGAGE if you are self employed or a director of your own company can be a frustrating experience. Many lenders will request 3 years full audited accounts before an application is even considered, whilst others now refuse such applications completely.

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Genetic breakthrough provides slim hopes for all

FROM GILES WHITTELL
IN LOS ANGELES

THE days of slim people exasperating plumper types by eating mounds of red meat and deep pan pizza with no discernible change in waistline may soon be over.

A team of Californian scientists claims to have isolated a single gene that stops some people becoming fat whatever they eat — and could be made to help others to lose weight. The discovery will not produce a new race of ultra-lean humanity, the researchers say, although it could do more for America's war on obesity than decades of slimming diets and video workouts.

The gene, known as UCP2, acts as a molecular map for a protein of the same name that can burn off excess calories rather than allow them to be converted into body fat, Dr Richard Surwit reported yesterday in the Journal *Nature Genetics*.

"This is a gene that determines whether a high-fat diet makes you fat or not," Dr Surwit explained. An editorial in the journal called the discovery a "breakthrough that is likely to have important implications for the treatment of human obesity."

All humans have the UCP2 gene, which produces an "uncoupling protein" (hence the name) to break a chain of reactions by which dietary fat would otherwise become body fat. With the special protein operating at full strength, excess fat is simply burned and expended as waste heat.

Researchers at the University of California's Davis campus, near San Francisco, have already identified drugs that can boost levels of the UCP2 protein in obese people, and are optimistic that new drugs can be developed to act directly on the gene.

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Speak-your-weight minister slips into overdrive

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Whitehall's latest wheeze is to offer the public a machine in place of a human to consult.

To demonstrate, the minister chosen to explain it yesterday was an automaton so cool, so regulated and so bland that, were a computerised hologram to have delivered the statement in his place, people would have fallen on its neck, weeping with relief at the sheer humanity, the flesh-and-blood quality, of the creature.

Virtual *reality*? This minister is a virtual hardware package. Unreal from his shiny shoes to his wax-slicked scalp, Roger Freeman's volume control is set permanently on *medium*, his facial screen switched to *impassive*, and his software programmed to ignore all provocation, and not to recognise humour. Mr Freeman's voice pattern puts us in mind of the running of an electric sewing machine, hemming curtains.

Mr Freeman had come to tell us about *government . direct (cmnd 3439)*. He even said it like a speaking clock. "People . interact . with . government . daily," he sang, in soft monotone. Should Mr Freeman be out of a job after the election, he would be well-suited to providing the voice for radio commercials for private hospitals on Classic FM. "As . the . Cabinet . Minister . for . Public . Service . I . find . the . prospect . of . delivering . services . electronically . direct . to . the . public . enormously . exciting."

Enormously exciting? The idea of Mr Freeman finding anything at all enormously exciting is risible, but there do exist modern software packages devised to recognise words like "enormously" and "exciting" and raise the volume for their delivery by a couple of notches. A primitive version of this function is incorporated into John Redwood's software: on the appearance in the Vulcan text of words like "royal" or "patriotic", Mr Redwood suddenly shouts, waves his arms mechanically. His programmers have been instructed by their Earthling informers that these are "emotion words".

On Freeman whirred. "... a means . for . making . services . customer-driven." The Freeman programme incorporates an in-built preference for such words. Other approaches, he told us, were "paper-driven". Roger Freeman is Brylcreem-driven. "The . initiative . should . be . truly . cross-governmental . and . customer-centred," he thrummed.

After seven minutes and 42 seconds the thrumming ceased. How do we know this? Incredibly, the minister's statement, of which the press were issued with a copy, ended: "I commend our plans to the House. *965 words (= 7 minutes 42 seconds at 130 words per minute).*"

Replying, Labour's Derek Foster, a normally charitable man, driven mad by the imperturbable whirring noises emitting from Mr Freeman, went right off the deep end. "This is a last-gasp technical gimmick from a party of the past ... citizens betrayed ... failure of imagination, failure of leadership, from a failed Government breathing its last gasp ..."

Poor Mr Foster. He should have known. The Freeman package is not programmed to respond to insult. The minister thanked him for his courtesy. "Personal . caring . compassionate . understanding . service ..." Freeman sing-songed, his thesaurus function spinning into overdrive.

Only Sir Patrick Cormack (C, Staffordshire South) momentarily spiked the minister's nylon cogs. Personal contact, he said, still counted with many. Who wanted to address inquiries "to a hole in the wall?" But that was what Sir Patrick was doing.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting to tackle fears of TV violence

Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, will meet senior broadcasters tomorrow to discuss growing public concern about screen violence.

The meeting, organised by the Broadcasting Standards Council and the Independent Television Commission, will be attended by Will Wyatt, chief executive of BBC Broadcast, Roger Laughton, director of the ITV company United Broadcasting, and Wilf Stevenson, director of the British Film Institute.

Martin Bell, the BBC foreign correspondent who has critisiced broadcasters for not showing the horror of war and violence, will address the meeting.

Security review

A review of the management of Broadmoor special hospital, concentrating on security and care, was announced by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary. The review follows concern about a "patient power" system at the hospital, which houses some of the most dangerous criminals.

Pollution deal

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, announced an EU agreement committing Britain to a 10 per cent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2010. He rejected a 15 per cent cut as being unrealistic and challenged other "major polluters", such as the US, to match the agreed target.

Damages for girl

A judge at a civil hearing at Bristol Crown Court awarded damages of £80,000 to a 12-year-old girl whose mother and two sisters were killed by a hit-and-run driver six years ago. The case against Martin Flook, 24, was brought on behalf of Emma Hurkett by her father, Stephen.

Climbers named

Douglas Blake, 54, a retired fireman, and Alexander Kirk, 64, a former miner, have died in Scotland's worst mountain accident this year. The two, from Penicuik in Midlothian, fell 1,000 ft in fierce blizzards in the West Highlands. Their five friends saw a snow cornice give way.

Boy faces charges

A 12-year-old boy is facing prosecution after a car he was driving hit a man who later died, Robert Bond, 59, from Preston, Lancashire, suffered severe head injuries in the accident at Burscough, Lancashire, last week. Police have yet to decide the severity of the charge.

Bull's rampage

Three men were taken to hospital after being injured by a bull that escaped from a cattle market in Darlington, Co Durham. The animal was finally destroyed by a police marksman after a two-mile rampage. The victims were treated at Darlington Memorial Hospital.

Burglar dies

A burglar died after getting stuck in a door for two days as he tried to get away. Police in Bradford were alerted after a neighbour heard the intruder's cries for help. Michael McNamara, 37, died less than 30 minutes after being released, despite attempts to revive him.

Move aimed at reducing £1.5bn bill

Ministers plan to prevent hopeless legal aid cases

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A FRESH crackdown on the £1.5 billion legal aid scheme was announced by the Government yesterday aimed at stopping lawyers recommending legal aid where cases are far-fetched or have little chance of success.

The new measures — to be unveiled in a consultation paper in two weeks' time — will target barristers who give "over-optimistic opinions" about the prospects of success in a civil legal aid case.

The Government will also float the idea of giving members of the public a role on legal aid committees, which hear legal aid appeals, so they can inject a more "robust" view of cases. The moves were announced by Gary Streeter, Parliamentary Secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department in a parliamentary answer, yesterday.

Mr Streeter said he was concerned that barristers asked by the Legal Aid Board for an opinion on whether civil legal aid should be granted were not taking a tough enough line. "I have become increasingly concerned — and we have evidence which is partly empirical and partly anecdotal — that some barristers are giving overgenerous and optimistic opinions, bearing in mind that the Legal Aid Board would find it very difficult to say 'no' if it had counsel's opinion on its desk that the case had a good chance of success." Mr Streeter said there was evidence that this was happening increasingly in the field of immigration cases and he wanted to send out "a clear signal that the Government wants to deal with the problem.



Streeter: attacked "over-optimistic" barristers

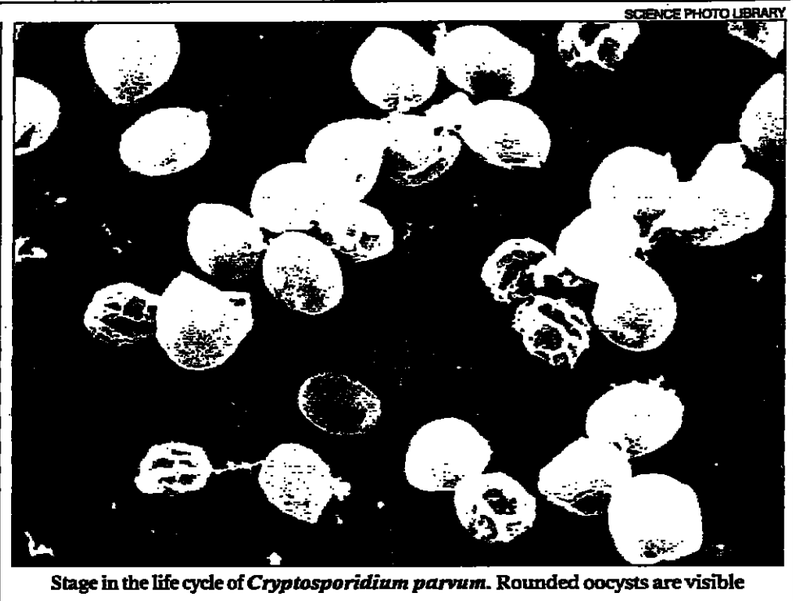
One proposal will be that the barrister instructed by the Legal Aid Board to give an opinion on the merits of a case should be barred from subsequently acting in the case. A second option to be floated is that only "approved" barristers — those on a special Legal Aid Board panel — should be allowed to give an opinion about the likely success of a case. At the same time the Government is looking at how to crack down on decisions of the Legal Aid Board's area committees who are made up of lawyers. The committees grant civil legal aid more "in line with public concern and common sense". It will put forward the idea of giving the public a role as members of specialist legal aid area committees who hear appeals on whether cases deserve legal aid and "be more robust about it," Mr Streeter said.

"It is becoming quite clear in some cases are turned down by the Legal Aid Board and they then go to the legal aid area committes who allow appeals against the Board's decisions. When these cases come up in court, it it turns out they are case which the taxpayer should never have had to pay for," he said. Increasingly the cases which caused public concern were "decisions by the area committees reversing initial refusals by the Legal Aid Board," he said."

The new measures would affect civil legal aid, which makes up roughly two thirds of the £1.4 billion budget. The Government has already embarked on measures to overhaul the legal aid scheme, including changes to the way lawyers are paid; a special investigations unit to stamp out bogus claims and new rules to tackle legal aid abuse by the apparently wealthy.

A Bar Council spokesman said last night that it was already a professional rule that a barrister should not prolong a legal aid case beyond what was necessary. He added that the Bar has also put forward proposals to the Government for reform of the legal aid scheme which included more stringent criteria on whether civil legal aid should be granted.

SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY



Stage in the life cycle of *Cryptosporidium parvum*. Rounded oocysts are visible

Water, water everywhere, but is it safe to drink?



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE medical sleuths of north London have a mystery on their hands: how cryptosporidium, a parasite which attaches to the intestines and produces a virulent toxin, has penetrated the water supply of 300,000 houses.

Cryptosporidium can affect all vertebrates as well as humans but is usually spread to people by farm animals, often sheep. The infective oocysts are excreted by the sheep and later washed by the rain from the pastures into streams, and from there to the domestic water supply. However, it is reported that the water to the north London houses was extracted mainly from boreholes which should be safe from contamination by animal faeces.

Patients infected with cryptosporidium suffer a sudden, explosive intestinal upset, which is induced by the toxins released by the infection. The diarrhoea is accompanied by cramping abdominal pain. The symptoms diminish but usually persist for seven to 14 days.

There is no specific treatment, but the normal healthy patient recovers spontaneously. The main therapy is directed to maintaining fluid balance.

In immuno-compromised patients, those taking steroids and other immune suppressant drugs, the very young and the very old, patients with cancer and those with HIV, the disease can occasionally prove fatal despite rehydration and other supportive measures. Cryptosporidium is a common cause of intractable diarrhoea in Aids patients.

Cryptosporidiosis is most infectious at the start of the disease when the patient's faeces are loaded with oocysts but it remains infectious until all symptoms have gone. If the cryptosporidium did not gain access to the water supply at its source, contamination must have occurred later, in which case the infecting vertebrae was presumably human, but the cause would be the same — sewage.

The only sure way to kill the oocysts is to boil water. Household water filters or purification tablets are unlikely to make it safe to drink.

Computer revolution in benefit services

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT
WHITEHALL EDITOR

CAR tax discs, driving licences, benefits advice, birth certificates and tax returns are to become available at the touch of a button.

Roger Freeman, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, told MPs yesterday that within five years, a quarter of public services will be available by computer links at home or at terminals in post offices, libraries and Citizens Advice Bureaux.

The revolution will mean the end of the traditional Whitehall bureaucrat as paperwork is cut. Staff will be moved to jobs dealing with the public at counters or on screen. The move is intended in particular to help people who live in the countryside, saving them journeys to town.

The Government will have to change the law to allow departments to exchange information about individuals. There are more than 100 Acts that prevent the flow of information.

Ministers say that the changes will not mean Big Brother spying on every citizen. Elizabeth France, the Data Protection Registrar, is to be consulted on the plans and the Government may strengthen her supervisory powers over the handling of personal information.

The need to ensure privacy for citizens is also being treated seriously. The main options for protecting access that are being examined are a personal identification number, the use of finger or hand prints or even computer checks on the pattern of the eye. Computer hackers are employed by the Government to test the security of the computers that hold state secrets and personal data.

Rifkind gives warning against the rush towards EU integration

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

MALCOLM RIFKIND gave warning yesterday of the long-term consequences should members of the European Union rush ahead with decisions on further integration, such as joining a single currency, without thinking them through.

European treaty changes were "for good" and could not be followed "by a chance to reconsider", the Foreign Secretary said. However, he steered clear of the controversy over whether a single currency would come into being on the planned date of January 1, 1999.

In a speech in Paris, Mr Rifkind underlined Britain's objections to integration in policy areas such as economic, foreign and home affairs, developments which, he said, would diminish the role of the nation-state. "Let us try to imagine the position in, say, 2025," he said. "Suppose we have a single currency with a single interest rate across the union. Suppose it is followed over time by harmonised fiscal policies, and perhaps common employment, and social policies and European control over justice and home affairs.

"In such a Europe, what role will be left for the nation-state? On monetary union, he added: "Decisions in 1998 on a single currency will affect us for years ahead. Short-term answers will have long-term results. We must be sure we are comfortable with them."

Mr Rifkind, in Paris to continue his advocacy of Britain's vision for the EU, used a wide-ranging speech to make clear that Britain would co-operate with other countries but could not agree to deeper integration in these areas. A member state generally only vetoed foreign policy proposals because it felt its national interest would be damaged — but under majority-voting it would have to accept that damage. It would "presumably complain pretty clearly about being overruled", Mr Rifkind said. "The result — an EU policy that the rest of the world knows is contested, even within Europe, and a member-state resentful at seeing its national interest overridden. I see little advantage and considerable risks in such majority-voting."

Clarke in 'fighting fit' mood

Continued from page 1

however, were complaining of moves by ambitious members of the Cabinet to push Mr Clarke to the limit, in the knowledge that the nearer they got to an election the less likely he would be to resign if a change of policy was effectively forced upon him.

It was being noted that when Mr Dorrell was told by Conservative Central Office staff of the intense press interest prompted by his remarks on Sunday he had telephoned Mr Clarke, rather than the Prime Minister, to assure him that he was not breaking the policy.

But Mr Clarke's friends said there was no chance of his giving way. "He has made plain time and again that he is doubtful about the single currency in 1999, but he is determined that this country should not lose its influence. Neither he nor a large group of us on the backbenches will let the Government throw it away," a senior MP said.

Michael Heseltine and Mr Clarke denied that the likes of Mr Dorrell and Mr Rifkind were jockeying for a future leadership contest. Mr Clarke told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme: "I don't believe that is Stephen's approach. If there is any colleague of mine behaving in that way they must have taken leave of their senses and they ought to be concentrating on getting this party back into office."

In his speech last night to the British Retail Consortium, Mr Clarke even called on the Spice Girls pop group to help his wider message of cheer. He hailed the economic achievements of the past five years, and said: "In the words of those well-known government supporters — the Spice Girls — 'I'll tell you what I want, what I really really want'. I want to see healthy sustainable growth and rising living standards for the next five years."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting to tackle fears of N violence

Some people think Presley is still alive, judge tells trade dispute hearing

Purveyor of Elvis soap aims to rock Memphis men

By Emma Wilkins

A FORMER barrow boy took on America's Presley industry in the High Court yesterday over the right to sell Elvis embossed soap and perfume in Britain.

Sid Shaw, whose products include *Are You Lonesome Tonight?* knickers, is appealing against a ruling in the Trademarks Registry in favour of Elvis Presley Enterprises Inc of Memphis, Tennessee.

Richard Meade, representing Mr Shaw, told Mr Justice Laddie in the Chancery Division in London that Elvis was a widely admired singer and actor who died in 1977. The judge replied: "There are those who believe he is still alive." Mr Meade: "We shall proceed on the assumption that he is dead."

After examining a bar of soap, the judge inquired whether the Presley image was stamped through it. "Is it like a stick of rock? Does it go all the way through or do you see Elvis Presley floating down the plughole?" Mr Meade said that the soap dissolved, leaving the image behind.

When told that there were many Elvis mementoes, including toe clippers, the judge expressed surprise. Mr Meade told him: "My Lordship can get almost anything. Anything you can think of, there is an Elvis Presley product."

"Elvis Presley gallows?" asked the judge. "If there were Elvis gallows, they would cost ten times as much now that all the licensing has fallen to the side of Elvis Presley Enterprises," Mr Meade replied.

Mr Meade claimed the American company, which sells memorabilia at Graceland, Presley's former home, intended to destroy the trade in Elvis memorabilia throughout Britain. Elvis Presley Enterprises, which under American law is the legal successor to Presley, was granted the trademark rights to toiletry products in Britain last February.

"I say they are absolutely not entitled to any of these marks. I say they can't have the monopoly of Elvis," Mr Meade said. Mr Shaw, 50, who worked briefly as a barrow boy in Petticoat Lane market, east London, founded his company in 1978 and launched his line in Presley toiletries in 1986.

He trades as "Elvisly Yours" at his shop in Shoreditch, east London, where he has built up a £3 million business in memorabilia such as the embossed soap and Presley perfume. His products are on sale throughout the world, including Blackpool beach, the Elvis Inn in Jerusalem and outlets throughout Europe, the court was told. Total wholesale and retail sales of Elvisly Yours products from 1978 to 1992 exceed £3 million.

Mr Shaw, who wears his hair in a style similar to the late singer's, has been to Graceland 52 times and has written three books on Presley. His commercial homage to Elvis was opened in 1983 by Jerry Schilling, one of the singer's bodyguards. Since then, the largely mail-order enterprise has been satisfying Presley supporters' hunger for kitsch, with few returns to sender.

When Elvis Presley Enterprises applied in 1989 for the right to register Elvis, Elvis Presley and Elvis A. Presley in the form of a signature on toiletry goods, Mr Shaw objected. His objections were overruled in a decision from the Trademarks Registry in February last year.

Mr Shaw was, however, allowed to continue trading in Britain as Elvisly Yours. When Peter Prescott, QC, for Elvis Presley Enterprises, pointed that out, the judge replied: "Well, he would not want to call his products Idi Aminly Yours. The whole idea was to relate the product to the name of Elvis."

Mr Prescott said that anyone buying Elvis souvenirs wanted to know they were the genuine article.

The judge said that anyone buying a memento, for example an *Independence Day* badge, "did not give a toss" whether it was the so-called genuine article.

The case was adjourned until today.

MICHAEL POWELL



Sid Shaw in his east London shop Elvisly Yours, which has built up a £3 million turnover in memorabilia

A bathroom gift box costs only £4.95

By Glen Owen

UNDER giant pictures of Presley in Sid Shaw's east London shop are arranged lines of Elvis toiletries, including King soap for £1.25, soapdishes for just under £3 and a lovingly assembled bathroom gift box for £4.95. Elvis perfume is £6. The top-of-the range Elvis mug, which reveals a picture of him as water is poured in, can be yours for £5.95.

Despite the attractions of the Elvis watch, which displays a bright, bequiffed portrait on the dial every 15 seconds, the manager cited a foot-high ceramic caricature, currently out of stock, as something of a special line. "It shakes and spins to the sound of *Love Me Tender*," he explained.

The Presley shrine claims a permanent place in a corner of the shop: a life-size, cast-iron model of the great man in a classic, hip-thrusting, lip-curling pose towers over the four bouquets of flowers and more than 20 cards which sit at his feet.

The shop also caters for the booming trade in Elvis impersonators, kitting out lookalikes in black wigs, dark glasses and blue suede shoes. Due to strict American export regulations, most of the goods have to be designed and built in Britain. This creates serious supply problems with popular American-made items such as the *I Elvis* numberplate. If the shop can get hold of one, they charge disciples £5.95.

August will mark the twentieth anniversary of the singer's death, and Elvisly Yours expects a flood of nostalgia, including visits by little groups of five or six fans. The manager also expects such pilgrimages on Presley's birthday every January.

"There is a strange atmosphere on both occasions. The mood of the visitors is somewhere between sadness and celebration. The trouble is, on both dates a dead man is being remembered," he said — in defiance of the hard-core of fans who think Elvis is still alive.

Dunblane families agree to 'dignified' TV film

By Alexandra Frean
Media Correspondent

A DOCUMENTARY film about the child victims of the Dunblane tragedy, which includes home video footage of the children playing and opening Christmas presents, is to be screened by ITV.

The broadcaster has gained exclusive access to eight of the victims' families for the programme, entitled *Dunblane. Remembering Our Children*, which will be screened on March 12 on the eve of the first anniversary of the shooting in which 16 children and their teacher were murdered. The other eight bereaved families have approved the film.

A spokesman for the parents said: "We decided to make this film to show how, in these tragic circumstances, we can be positive, how difficult it is day to day, how all of our priorities have changed, how we support each other ... and how the children and Gwen [their teacher] live on.

"Before March 13, 1996, all we had in common as a group was that we were the parents of primary one children. That day changed our lives, and what we now have in common should be wished on no-one."

Allen Jewhurst, of Chameleon Television, who produced the programme, said that the parents had decided to give exclusive co-operation to show how they had been able to pick up the pieces of their lives to give hope to others who grieved.

"There was only one film to be made, and that was a documentary in partnership with the parents," he said. "With no preconceived structure we agreed to explore together the nature of vulnerability, courage and dignity in the face of such horror. We set out to make an inspirational film of friendship, a film that would encapsulate the emotions of pain and joy, and the desire to hold the memories while attempting to move on.

"It was also clear that the parents loved talking about their children and we felt it was important that we should get to know the children's characters in the film. We endeavoured to produce a film that would make a contribution to help others understand the loss of a child, and how to treat people in grief."

The film was made for the ITV company Meridian. Vernon Lawrence, managing director of United Film and Television Productions, which has the ITV licences for Anglia and Meridian, said: "It is very moving indeed but it is not saccharin. It is done with great dignity."

Mr Lawrence said that the idea for the programme originated with an employee of Chameleon Television who came from Dunblane. Members of the victims' families will attend a press screening of the film in London today.

☐ The guns used by Thomas Hamilton in the Dunblane massacre were destroyed by police yesterday. The Crown Office confirmed that four handguns and 1,000 rounds of ammunition were destroyed at an undisclosed location.

Fans sue FA for penalty that put City out the Cup

By John Goodbody, Sports News Correspondent

FANS of Leicester City Football Club are suing the Football Association over the penalty awarded against their team in the FA Cup tie at Chelsea last Wednesday.

The supporters are serving a writ, seeking £140 in damages plus expenses, because one of their members had to miss two days' work when he was so distressed by the decision of Mike Reed, the referee.

This is believed to be the first time that any English supporter has tried to sue the governing body for compensation after a referee's decision.

Three minutes before the end of extra time with the teams locked at 0-0 in the FA Cup fifth round replay last Wednesday, Mr Reed awarded Chelsea a penalty. This was converted by Frank Leboeuf, giving Chelsea a 1-0 victory. However, even neutral observers were surprised at the penalty.

John Regan, 34, a Leicester season ticket-holder, said: "The writ is at Lancaster Gate [FA headquarters] now. We are deadly serious. Our solicitor is not laughing and nor were we when we saw that decision."

Mr Regan, who writes for a Leicester "fanzine", *Where's The Money Gone?* said he was acting on behalf of a reader, who needed to take two days off work following the match at Stamford Bridge.

The result of the match will stand whatever legal process takes place. Even in the notorious "hand of God" incident in 1986 when Diego Maradona, the Argentinian forward, had handled the ball in scoring against England in the World Cup, the 2-1 result stood.

Mr Regan said: "One lad I know had to take two days off work for football trauma. The shock and distress was too much for him. As soon as the poor kid got out of bed two days later he saw that Mike Reed was in charge of our next game against Chelsea.

"You may well ask what the point is. We want Mike Reed's wage packet. The decision was clear to see at Stamford Bridge. It was never a penalty, but it wasn't just that. You have to question the referee's performance."

He added: "We know that this has never been done before but we are confident we can win a landmark case. Our solicitor believes we can. We have sent the writ and the FA has to answer within 14 days. The ball is in their court." An FA spokesman said: "To my knowledge, we have not yet received any writ."

Mr Regan said that the Leicester supporters were "clubbing together" to raise the money. "It won't change the result but it will let Mike Reed know what can happen. The referees are getting talked about more than the players these days and that is wrong.

"The club aren't lodging an official complaint. However, at the end of the day, it has lost a lot of money and so have all the Leicester fans who made the trip to London."

The incident occurred in the game when Mike Reed, standing five yards away, judged that Spencer Prior, a Leicester player, fouled Erland Johnsen inside the penalty area. Even hardened Chelsea fans believed that that Johnsen had simply collided with Prior.

Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, said after the game: "It was very, very apparent that it was nowhere near a penalty kick ... The decision was an utter disgrace."

MARC ASPLAND



Mike Reed, the referee, waves away protests by furious Leicester City players

Dowding medals sold for £60,000 to RAF Museum

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE wartime medals of Air Chief Marshal Lord Dowding have been sold to the RAF Museum, Hendon, two weeks before they were due to be auctioned. The medals of the former Commander-in-Chief of Fighter Command, who masterminded the Battle of Britain, were sold by Odette, Baroness Dowding, the third wife of Lord Dowding's only son, Derek, who died in 1992.

The proposed sale of the medals at a Spink and Son auction on March 18 had caused anger in the Dowding family. *The Times* reported yesterday that Piers Dowding, the 3rd baron and grandson of the wartime commander, had not been consulted about the sale.

Yesterday, in a surprise move, it was announced that Odette, Baroness Dowding, had agreed to sell the medals for £60,000 to the RAF Museum. Michael Fopp, its director, said last night that he had been in private negotiations with the vendor for some weeks and was delighted that she had agreed to the sale yesterday. The £69,000 cost to the museum in north London includes a £9,000 premium to Spink. The medals will remain with Spink until March 17 so that RAF veterans can see them at a reception that was planned for the eve of the auction.

Dr Fopp said the medals, which include Grand Cross insignia from the Order of the Bath and the Royal Victorian Order, will then go on immediate display, next to Goering's wartime medals. "They never met in the war but now their medals and uniform will be displayed next to each other," he said.

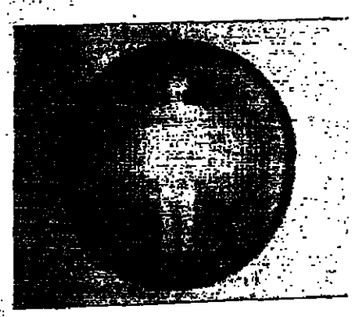
Lady Dowding said last night: "The RAF Museum is the ideal venue to help perpetuate the memory of this great hero."

The present Lord Dowding, who lives in Japan, had said it would be a disaster if the medals went abroad.

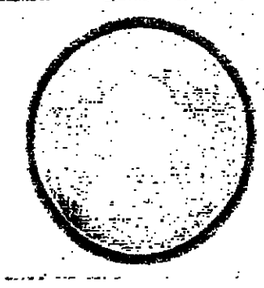
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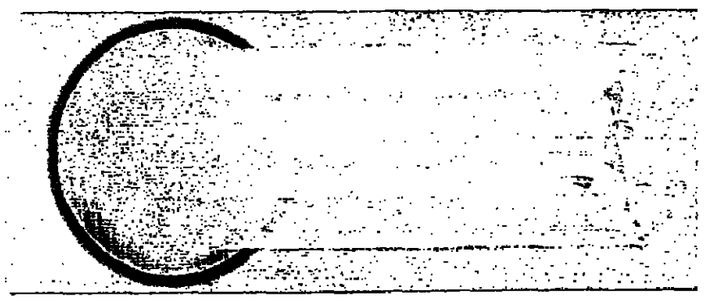
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Bomb found outside Sinn Fein offices in Irish Republic

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A BOMB was discovered outside Sinn Fein offices in Monaghan in the Irish Republic yesterday. Although nobody admitted planting the device, security sources were blaming the Ulster Volunteer Force.

It would be the first time that loyalist terrorists have attacked a target in the Republic since the breakdown of the IRA ceasefire in February 1996, and is thought to be a warning to the Dublin Government. The UVF is believed to be very unhappy that Dick Spring, the Irish Deputy Prime Minister, met Nationalist community leaders from Northern Ireland with terrorist convictions in government buildings in Dublin last week. Mr Spring's visitors, from Portadown, are protesting at plans by Orangemen to march through their estate from Drumcree again this July.

The bomb, in a hold-all, contained about 5lb of commercial explosives. It had been placed at the back of the Sinn Fein offices and primed to go off at 9am yesterday, as the party's members arrived for work. However, the device failed and only the detonator exploded. The bomb was taken away by members of the Irish Army bomb disposal team for forensic examination.

Sinn Fein were last night making no comment about the attempted attack and the Irish Government appeared unaware of the extent of the loyalist threat.

The last attack in the Republic occurred in September 1994 when the UVF placed a bomb in a hold-all in the Belfast to Dublin train. Again, only the detonator exploded, grazing the legs of passengers.

Five months previously, the UVF placed a similar bomb in a pub in Dublin where high-ranking republicans were attending a Sinn Fein function. Only the detonator exploded but a UVF gunman shot dead a doorman.

But yesterday's attack will rekindle particularly grim memories for the people of Monaghan. Almost 26 years ago the UVF carried out car bomb attacks in Dublin and Monaghan: 28 people were killed in Dublin and five in Monaghan.

Loyalist paramilitaries have long been disaffected with the political process and felt disproportionate attention was being paid to nationalist grievances. Before Christmas they put bombs under the cars of Sinn Fein councillors in the Province. Nobody admitted those attacks. The Monaghan attack will probably not be claimed either.

John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, said yesterday that multiparty talks on the future of Northern Ireland should aim for progress within a set period after the British general election. Mr Bruton, addressing British and Irish MPs in Dublin, called for an agreed time-frame for the talks, after the election.



The Welsh corgi, left, bulldog and spaniel are among the breeds singled out by the Council of Europe's convention on pet animals

Treaty 'threatens 100 breeds of dog and cat'

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

MORE than 100 breeds of dog and cat could be outlawed under European proposals, animal pressure groups claimed yesterday. Threatened breeds include the cocker spaniel, bulldog, basset hound, corgi and Persian cat.

The Council of Docked Breeds is calling on individual MPs to set out their position on the Council of Europe's Convention for the Protection of Pet Animals before the general election. The treaty has already been signed by 11 member states but Britain has not yet committed itself.

Under the convention, a list of canine characteristics would be banned, including large protruding eyes, abnormally positioned teeth and abnormal eyelids. The cocker spaniel's ears are said to be too long, the basset hound has legs which are "abnormally positioned" and the dachshund's legs are too short, as are those of the King Charles spaniel. The bulldog would have to disappear because it has "markedly folded skin".

St Bernards, several breeds of terrier and some types of corgis could also be outlawed if the convention, designed to improve animal health and achieve greater unity between member countries, became law.

Because it is not a European Union directive, it would not be legally binding. But dog breeders fear it will be brought into force after the election.

The Conservatives have pledged not to sign the convention during this parliament, but campaigners fear the next government could commit itself to the rules without realising the consequences. Ginette Elliott, a spokeswoman for the Council of Docked Breeds, said: "This is yet another example of European interference. They are not just seeking a single currency. They want a single breed of dog." The RSPCA said each breed had to be evaluated individually to determine whether it was suffering, and that an arbitrary ban would lead to certain breeds being lost unnecessarily.

Pop girls add some sugar to the spice

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

THE Spice Girls put away their pouts and snarls and courted full-blown respectability yesterday. They released a video starring their mothers and, perhaps rather more damaging, were discussed in the Commons and claimed as allies by the Chancellor.

Their record has an accompanying video featuring the girls' mothers in a chat show. A spokesman for the band said the decision to feature two generations of Spice Girls had been made for the most heartwarming of reasons. "It's Mother's Day on Sunday and they are nice girls," he said.

Last night Kenneth Clarke, in a speech to the British Retail Consortium, proclaimed: "In the words of those well-known government supporters 'I'll tell you what I want, what I really, really want'. I want to see healthy sustainable growth and rising living standards for the next five years."

Earlier in the Commons the girls were used by Michael Fabricant, Tory MP for Mid Staffordshire, to illustrate how government tax policies had stopped pop stars fleeing into tax exile. He asked the National Heritage Secretary Virginia Bottomley: "Are you not delighted that under this Conservative government the Spice Girls have stayed in this country?"

Mr Fabricant urged Mrs Bottomley to congratulate the Spice Girls for winning the best single award in the Brit Awards and asked: "Were you not heartened, as I was, to hear that Margaret Thatcher was the original Spice Girl?" Mrs Bottomley replied only: "Yes."

Royal yacht gets into a scrape with fuel tanker

BY MICHAEL EVANS

THE Royal Yacht *Britannia* was involved in a collision with a tanker during a refuelling operation.

The collision caused damage to the starboard side. The immaculate paintwork that includes 24-carat gold leafing, was badly scraped. There was also minor stuctural damage. The royal yacht is currently on its last overseas trip before being decommissioned at the end of the year.

The incident happened last Friday when *Britannia* was drawing alongside the Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel *Bayleaf*, to be refuelled off the coast of Pakistan, close to Karachi. The operation requires perfect judgment by the officers on the bridge and is normally carried out by the captain or navigator.

During the operation, known in the Navy as "doing a RAS" (replenishment at sea), the royal yacht and refuelling tanker are supposed to remain at the same speed, about 40 yards apart, creating pressure waves at aft and stern. It is believed there was a steering fault on *Britannia* and the royal yacht started to get too close, and finally got sucked towards the tanker. No one was hurt.

Engineers flew out to Karachi and spent yesterday examining the damage. *Britannia* is expected to continue its planned trip to Bombay but when it arrives in Singapore will be given an extensive check. A Navy spokesman said that the incident would not affect the timing of the yacht's arrival in Hong Kong in June for the handover of the colony to China.

Bugged phone calls to be part of show

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

MOBILE-PHONE users could find their most intimate conversations being broadcast by an avant garde mixed-media show that draws on live telephone calls picked up with a scanner during each performance.

A national tour, which includes two dates at the South Bank Centre in London in May, may, however, see police officers in the audience. A Home Office spokeswoman said that it was unlawful to intercept a mobile phone call. "People have a right to privacy," she said.

Robin Rimbaud, a multimedia musician, plans to work the scanner, mixing random conversations with his electronic score for *ACTual fiACTual*, created by the choreographer Laurie Booth, which is premiered tonight at the Rhoda McGaw Theatre in Woking, Surrey.

Mr Booth insisted that he is processing material so that voices are altered. During rehearsals, conversations had ranged from a child leaving a threatening call on someone's answering-machine to a builder making arrangements for his next job. "We also zoomed in on quite a few people having affairs."

But he denied they were invading people's privacy. "It's anonymous material. As we listen to it, the issue is about the banality of human communication."

A South Bank spokeswoman said that the mobile phone conversations were part of a larger soundscape. "He takes all kinds of recordings. People in bars, for example, to create a wall of sound."

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Black clergy association official suggests 'unwitting racism and sexism' may have played a part

Parishioners rally round priest facing dismissal by her bishop

By Daniel McGrory and Ruth Gledhill

PARISHIONERS yesterday rallied behind an Anglican priest facing dismissal over her dispute with a fellow cleric. Impromptu congregations gathered around the village green at King's Norton, Birmingham, in defence of the Rev Eve Pitts.

They pointed accusatory fingers at her fellow clergy in the 13th century church of St Nicolas and claimed that the diocese had wasted thousands of pounds hiring a management consultant to try to resolve the problem. They said it arose because of jealousy of Mrs Pitts's success in attracting larger congregations than her fellow clergy.

Olive Smith is among a growing number of worshippers who prefer to attend Mrs Pitts's services in a shabby, draughty community centre on a tower block housing estate, rather than visit St Nicolas's, which has banned her from preaching.

"The root cause is jealousy," Mrs Smith said. "Eve is a charismatic figure, warm and welcoming, who does her job very well whether it be spiritual or practical matters. The Bishop and the rest call themselves Christians and yet they persecute Eve. It is dreadful to witness."

She was among those who watched Mrs Pitts dissolve in tears during a service at the weekend as her husband, Anthony, read out the open letter from the Bishop of Birmingham, the Right Rev Mark Santer, demanding her resignation. Mrs Pitts has refused to resign, despite being offered posts in three other parishes.

The Bishop was otherwise engaged yesterday and left it to diocesan staff to try to defuse the row, which they insist has nothing to do with gender or race — Mrs Pitts is black. A spokesman said: "We wish this could be resolved amicably but if she refuses to go then I'm afraid Mrs Pitts can stay in her house and be paid by us until April 1999, when her licence expires. But we hope common sense will prevail."

Last night, the 200-strong Association of Black Clergy demanded an independent inquiry into the affair. The Rev Theo Samuel, vicar of West Drayton, west London, a former chairman of the association, has taken up Mrs Pitts's case. He said: "We are not going to sit quietly. We want an inquiry to look into the total implications of what is happening in the parish. Eve is very upset. All she wants to do is fulfil her ministry."

He said that if the Birmingham diocese did not open an inquiry, the association might be forced to mount its own investigation. Although diocesan officials and clergy have strongly denied there is any element of racism involved, Mr Samuel believes "unwitting racism and sexism" might have played a part.

He said: "Eve was appointed to be team vicar with particular responsibilities for a particular church [Druid's Heath]. Within two weeks she was called up and they decided she needed to be at the parish church of St Nicolas [King's Norton]. She accepted the challenge. But no-one told her that having accepted that, she would be the rector's assistant, effectively demeaning her from being a team vicar to being a curate."

Her complaints were that decisions had been made behind her back and foisted on her. "The whole regime was authoritarian," Mr Samuel said. "She was being blamed for the situation."

The Archdeacon of Birmingham, the Ven John Duncan, said he "absolutely rejected" any suggestion of racism. He said the difficulties arose because Mrs Pitts was "not a team player" and the situation had become "intolerable". He added: "We take the issue of black people very seriously and have a post available for a person to develop those things within the ministry." He went on: "There is poison running in the parish. There are divisions in the parish. Some are on one side, some are on the other. It is not an exaggeration to say that lifelong friends have broken up over this. It is a prime example of the way in which public disagreement between clergy creates division among the people."

> She wants to do things her way and when stopped she throws tantrums

The bishop took offence at Mrs Pitts using St Nicolas's to complain that she was being treated like a "junior curate" and was being ignored by her fellow clerics in the parish. Shortly before Christmas, Mrs Pitts stood up in a pew and criticised the Rev Leigh, repeating her denunciation at a parochial church council meeting.

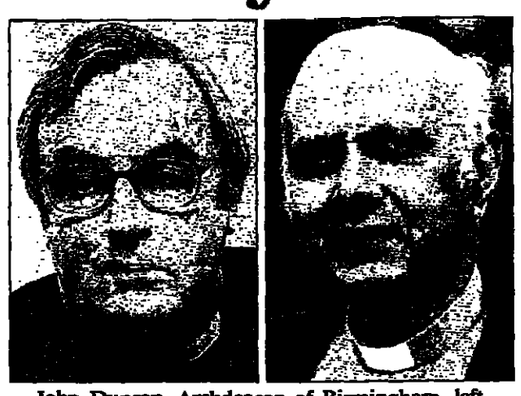
The Rev Stephen Winter, another of the pastoral team at King's Norton, said the other three vicars in the parish were supporting the rector, who has been on sick leave for several months. "This has not helped at all. It is certainly not racial, as Mr Leigh is part Chinese, part Jewish and Creole, and we have another woman vicar on the team," he said.

A senior member of the parish council said: "Mrs Pitts is very headstrong and full of herself. She wants to do things her way and when she is stopped she throws tantrums. She is successful in some senses but it has gone to her head."

Such views were in the minority on the village green and on the Druids Heath estate, to where Mrs Pitts has been exiled. Olive Drewitt said: "Everyone asks for Eve when they have a funeral, wedding or baptism and she is allowed back into St Nicolas for that. It is a disgraceful way for a church to behave."

Mrs Pitts conducted a funeral service at the church yesterday and was embraced by many passers-by as she appeared at the wooden gates in a cream-coloured cassock. Earlier, at her home, she had declined to be drawn into a public argument. "I am gratified by the support and good wishes I have received but I will maintain my silence and be guided by wisdom as my mother told me," she said.

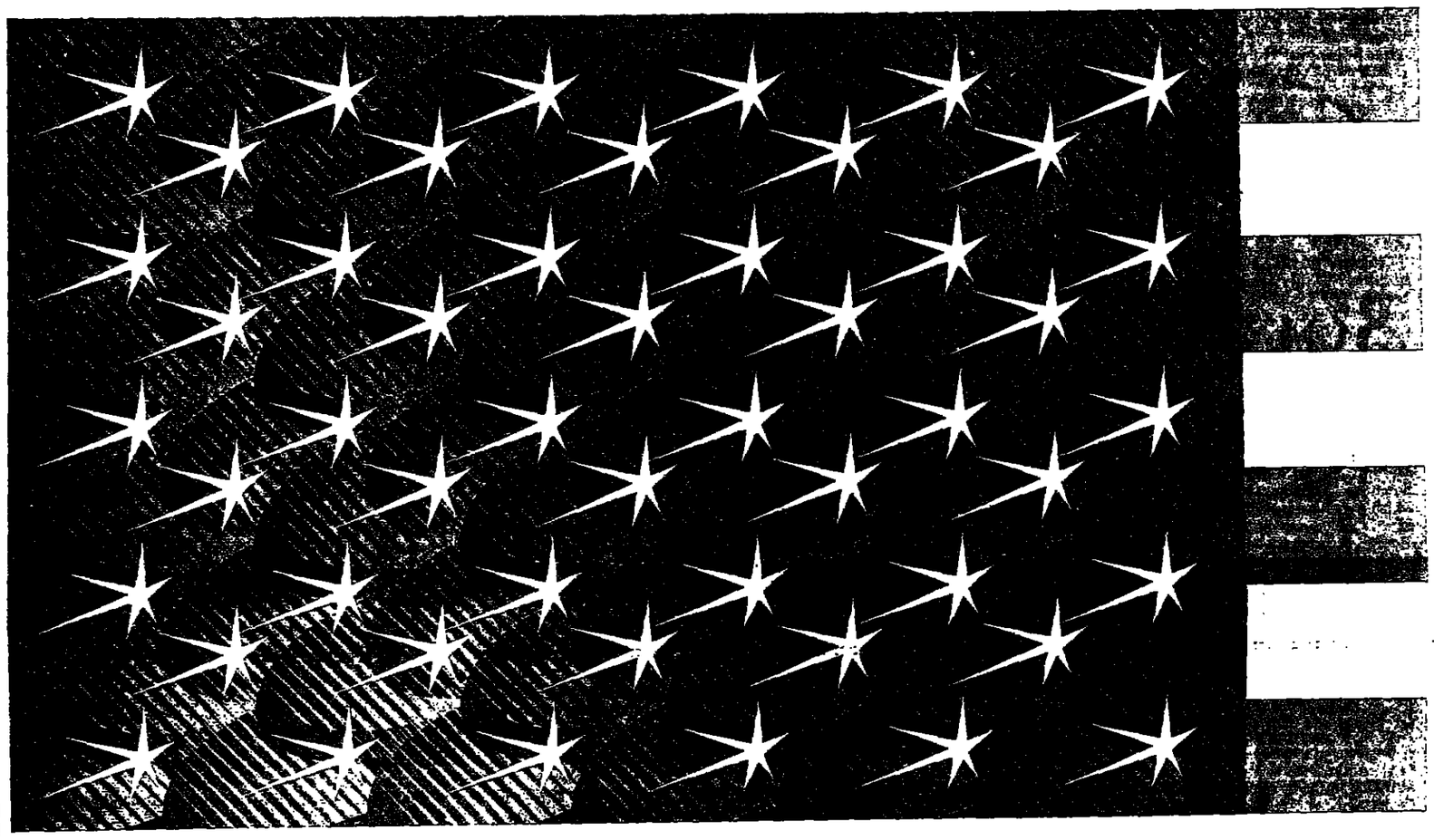
Graham Townsend, clerk to the parish council, said: "The bishop and the others have been inept in handling this. They took only the clergy's views and did not ask the laity. Two wardens resigned after they were told by the diocese they had to back the rector and we wasted money on a consultant. We are a laughing stock."



John Duncan, Archdeacon of Birmingham, left, rejected a racism suggestion by Rev Theo Samuel



Eve Pitts said she was grateful for the support and good wishes she had received



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Marvin: hostel room

Lonely death of pop star's first son

BY JOANNA BALE

THE son of Hank Marvin died from a rare form of pneumonia in a squalid hostel room littered with beer cans and cigarette stubs, an inquest was told yesterday.

Dean Marvin, 35, the eldest son of the *Shadows* guitarist and godson of Sir Cliff Richard, was found dead at a YMCA hostel in London in January. No members of his family or friends attended yesterday's hearing at Hornsey Coroner's Court, north London.

PC Ian Wood told the hearing that he had been called to Hornsey YMCA hostel early on January 6. He found Mr Marvin's fully-clothed body lying on the bed in his room. He had lived there alone for five years.

Professor David Bowen, of the University of London, who carried out the post-mortem examination, said Mr Marvin had died of lobar pneumonia, a rare form of the disease which could strike suddenly and which was "very much more common in a person of poor physical condition". He said Mr Marvin's liver showed signs of alcohol abuse which may have contributed to the onset of the disease, but there was no evidence of alcohol or drugs in the body at the time of death.

The coroner, Dr William Dolman, recorded a verdict of death by natural causes.

Mr Marvin had reportedly not seen his father, a Jehovah's Witness, for more than ten years after a disagreement over the multimillionaire's strict attitudes towards alcohol, drugs and sex. Dean, his two brothers and sister were brought up by their mother Beryl after the couple divorced in 1971.

In his late teens Dean lived with his father but left after an argument and lost touch. He had a promising future as a guitarist until the rift with his father 14 years ago. He once told a newspaper that falling out with his father was the reason that he turned to drink. He lived on social security benefit and, according to friends, spent most days in his room reading science fiction books.

'Anything that keeps children at school after lessons has got to be good'

Fifth-formers are paid to give pupils homework help

BY PAUL WILKINSON

FIFTH-FORMERS are being paid £2.50 an hour in a pioneering scheme to help fellow students to prepare for their GCSEs. They act as "peer tutors", running voluntary out-of-hours study sessions.

Michael Hill, the head of Rosecroft secondary school at Loftus, Redcar, said yesterday: "The tutors appreciate the problems the youngster might be having — they have been there themselves. We have been pleasantly surprised at the number of youngsters using the centre."

Seven fifth-formers teach and five others handle administration. Sessions are held in the library and computer room twice a week. The pay comes from £25,000 granted by the Prince's Trust, Barclays Bank and educational foundations.

The school is in a problem area and often pupils prefer to do homework in the sessions rather than take it home. Mr Hill said: "There have certainly been some faces turning up who we didn't expect to see. It's not like a detention, with stern-faced teachers looking over your shoulder. The younger pupils benefit because sometimes a peer tutor can explain how to solve a problem in a more understandable way than a teacher."

Other schools are considering introducing the scheme. Mr Hill explained why the tutors are paid: "They are at an age where they need to earn some extra cash. This might normally mean an early morning paper round which leaves them tired, or an evening round. I think it is better for them to earn in a constructive, beneficial way like this, rather than wandering the streets in the dark."

The posts were advertised and the 20 pupils who applied were interviewed. Those chosen went on a weekend training session at a hotel to learn basic skills.

Pay was settled by negotiation. "I was very impressed by their forceful argument," he said. "They had researched pay rates for various teenage jobs and put up a good case for £3 a session. I was happy to pay £3 but explained the funding would then run out earlier and the study centre would close early. They appreciated this and agreed to £2.50 so it will last the full three years."

Ruth Duck, 16, who is studying for five GCSEs, said: "The money comes in useful but that wasn't the reason I applied for the job as tutor. I just like helping people. It gives me a great sense of achievement if I come away from a session knowing I've helped someone to understand how to solve a maths problem."

However, the scheme was labelled child labour by a teachers' union leader yesterday. Nigel de Gruchy, secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "I have nothing against homework clubs and the like, properly supervised by teachers employed on a separate contract, but we are concerned about the development of private finance projects in our schools and where children are involved in their operation.

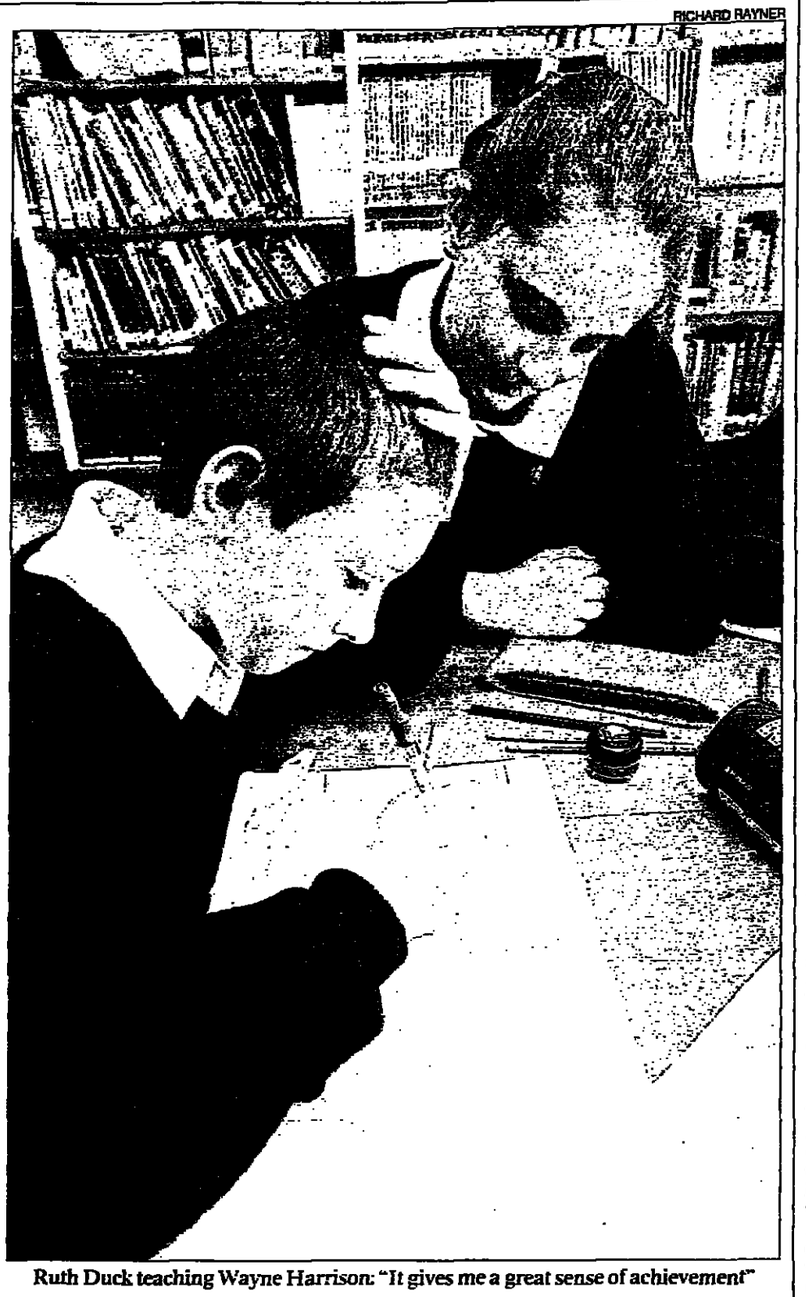
"Where is the accountability? Where is the chain of command? I would advise our members to give such schemes a wide berth. This is not just child labour, it is cheap child labour."

Another union spokesman said: "One must ask the question how long will it be before we have staff wearing the company logo of the firm that sponsors them. It's a little like the old Victorian method of having monitors in school to supervise pupils, or that used in public schools where prefects take prep sessions at the end of the day."

Mr Hill said: "There is total accountability, there is a member of staff dedicated to the scheme as manager and paid extra from the funding. Although the project is run by the children, there is always someone to watch over them.

"The money we give them is not important, they would do it without payment. In an environment where it might not be cool to learn, it is cool to be a peer tutor. Anything that helps children back at school after lessons, still working, has got to be good."

RICHARD RAYNER



Ruth Duck teaching Wayne Harrison: "It gives me a great sense of achievement"

Swampy is free to carry on digging

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE eco-protester "Swampy" walked unpunished from court yesterday after he admitted resisting bailiffs during his week-long tunnel protest against the A30 improvement in Devon. Swampy, charged under his real name of Daniel Hooper, was conditionally discharged. He said that he would carry on digging and would buy a drill with £100 sent to him in case a fine was imposed.

Hooper, 23, was one of 12 people accused of resisting the bailiffs during the so-called Battle of Fairmile five weeks ago. He was the last of five protesters to emerge from a 30ft deep tunnel, giving himself up after his four colleagues had been dug out by a team of specialist tunnellers. The bailiffs' men had had to shore up the tunnel and break through metal doors before cutting the protesters out of concrete lock-ons.

Hooper is living in a tunnel in the path of the second runway at Manchester Airport. Yesterday he gave his mother's home at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, as his address. He arrived at Exmouth Magistrates' Court wearing wellington boots, mud-spattered blue trousers and a grimy jacket.



Hooper: was granted a conditional discharge

Before the case, the protesters brought a carnival atmosphere to the court's entrance hall. One was dressed as a jester and another played a recorder. Vegan snacks were distributed and two dogs played around the protesters' feet.

Edward Boyce, for the accused protesters, said that nobody had been injured during the incident, "and broadly speaking it was conducted in good humour". Hooper's fellow protesters clapped and cheered as he was sentenced.

If you can't work the computer, get out of the kitchen

BY ROBIN YOUNG

COMPUTERS are moving into the kitchen, a chefs' conference was told yesterday. They are not only taking charge of restaurant charges but determining at what time customers may eat.

"Tight controls make all the difference in our business," Stuart Busby, head chef of Le Petit Blanc in Oxford, told Chef Conference 1997, sponsored by British Meat, in London. "New computer programmes allow us to cost every single item in every recipe, so we know precisely what we have to charge to make whatever profit we choose."

Although Mr Busby's restaurant does not computerise bookings, he said that many bigger establishments did. "With only 125 covers, we expect to serve 100,000 meals this year. For all of us, turning the tables makes all the difference to profitability."

Customers who rang for a table at 8pm, he explained, would be told that none was available. Instead they would be offered the opportunity to dine at 6pm or 10pm. "Basically, we know we can fill the tables at eight." Mr Busby said. "It is getting customers in early and late that makes the difference."

Information technology is revolutionising the restaurant business, delegates to the conference agreed. "Students tell me they come to college to learn to cook," one catering college lecturer said, "but I tell them that computer skills are going to be just as important to them in future as anything that they can do at the stove."

"I think it is appalling," A. A. Gill, restaurant critic of *The Sunday Times*, told the conference. "To tell your customers that they cannot eat when they want to is the height of arrogance. It is they who pay your bills and wages. One day you are going to need their repeat business and if they do not come back when you need them, you are going to be stuffed."

Families are kept awake by M-way bridge of sighs

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of families in Kent are being kept awake at night by a "singing" motorway bridge that emits a penetrating low-pitched whine during strong winds.

The M2 Medway crossing at Rochester, dubbed Kent's Bridge of Sighs, began its unwelcome performances after strengthening work was carried out last year.

The noise has been virtually continuous during the recent gales, forcing Kent County Council to despatch engineers to the bridge to discover the cause.

Harry Newnham, 45, a prison worker who lives in the shadow of the bridge, said: "It has been going on since we had the gales and I cannot sleep at night-time. I have tried everything. I have put cotton wool in my ears and I have even moved bedroom to get away from the noise. But nothing has stopped the effects.

"I have double glazing in every room but when the winds get up, the bridge makes a high-pitched whistling sound like a flute blowing one continuous note. It is driving me mad and I want something done about it. It happens every time the wind reaches a certain speed and is blowing from a south or southwesterly direction."

Another resident said: "We are all being driven insane by the noise. None of us are getting a proper night's sleep and I hope it is sorted out as soon as possible."

Those living downwind of the bridge have suffered most. When a recording of the whine was played on a local radio station yesterday morning, a caller from Ashford, 25 miles away, claimed to have heard it from his garden.

One theory is that the noise is the wind passing through new handrails installed during work on building bridge parapets late last year. A spokesman for the Highways Agency said: "We are investigating the cause in order to get a solution as soon as possible."

Much ado as Globe box office opens to public

BY DALYA ALBERGE AND GLEN OWEN

THE Globe Theatre, the replica of Shakespeare's wooden "O" that has struggled for 25 years to take shape on London's South Bank, is at last open for the paying public.

Tickets for the first season of Shakespeare plays, starting in May, went on sale yesterday. The telephone-booking system, beset by teething troubles, tried to cope with a stream of calls as a trickle of playgoers arrived in person at the box office, still enveloped by the noise of builders working to beat their deadline.

The new theatre marked its first day of business by stepping up its campaign to overturn a decision by English Heritage that the remains near by of Shakespeare's original Globe should be buried to allow a property developer to erect a four-storey block.

Although building work has already begun, Mark Rylance, the Globe's artistic director, and Professor Andrew Gurr, of Reading University, are among those pleading for further excavations to take place. Without such a study, historians and actors had little hope of learning more about the original staging of Shakespeare's plays.

Michael Holden, chief executive of the Globe Theatre, said: "We have excavated a tiny percentage. We have yet to find out if the remnants are of the first Globe of 1599 or the second of 1614." Burying the Globe was "a bit like burying the Elgin Marbles and hoping that people will forget about them," he added.

Professor John Orrell, of the University of Alberta, an historical adviser for the reconstruction of the new Globe, said: "The site is a national shrine, a place where the English soul is shaped."

The position of English Heritage is that remains of national importance should be preserved in situ and that it is not a general right to fully excavate all archaeological remains. "We have to leave something for future generations," a spokesman said.

Stanley Roth, an American, was the first person at the box office yesterday. He went away clutching tickets for the first performances of *Henry V* and *A Winter's Tale* at the end of May. "I think it will be worth it," he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Roedean girl, 16, expelled over drugs

A girl aged 16 has been expelled from Roedean after being found with heroin and cannabis. The girl, who is believed to come from Hong Kong, was not charged but was cautioned by detectives in the presence of her parents.

Linda Wood, director of admissions at the £13,625-a-year school, situated near Brighton, said: "We are very sorry for the girl concerned but we have a permanent exclusion which is our policy in such cases."

Head strong

A motorist whose head went through his car windscreen in a crash was saved from serious injury by a gold plate inserted in his skull after a motorcycle crash 15 years ago. Ian Harrison, an ironmonger, lost control when his car skidded and hit a wall in Selby, North Yorkshire.

20 years for rape

A US Navy serviceman who raped a 12-year-old American girl at RAF Edzell communications base in Angus, Scotland, was sentenced to 20 years in a US military prison. First Class Petty Officer Lester Knighten, 38, was convicted after a four-day court martial.

Another CJD case

A sixteenth person has developed the new variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease linked to eating beef infected with BSE, the Department of Health disclosed. The beef crisis was sparked last March when the Government announced that there was was possible link with BSE.

Victim named

The man seriously injured when he was hit by a Eurostar train near Paddock Wood, Kent, has been named as Michael Peter Warboys, 24, who was born in Ascot, Berkshire. Hours before the accident he was released on bail by magistrates after a breach of the peace hearing.

Screen test

An ambulance capable of relaying live pictures of emergency incidents to doctors in hospital will go on trial in Lancashire this month. Three cameras, a computer and a phone have been fitted to the vehicle, based at Fleetwood. Mini cameras have also been fitted to paramedics' helmets.

Petrol price study

A study of petrol prices in rural Scotland has been commissioned by the Government. Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, said that the study, covering social, economic and environmental issues, was in response to fears about high petrol prices and future supplies.

Cannabis blaze

Firefighters who attended a blaze at a disused supermarket in West Melton, south Yorkshire, came across thousands of burning cannabis plants. "We thought it was a garden centre at first," one firefighter said. Police arrested a 43-year-old man in connection with the plants.

Royal donation

Frank "Foo Foo" Lammar, a drag queen who invited Diana, Princess of Wales, to open a cancer ward being built at Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and to send an item for a charity auction, has received a £500 cheque from the Princess for the hospital's friends' charity.



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Memorial to Indian Army will mark independence jubilee

By Alan Hamilton

BRITAIN is to mark the fiftieth anniversary of Indian and Pakistani independence this year by raising a memorial in London to the many thousands of soldiers of the Indian Army who fought and died in two world wars.

Announcing a programme of commemorative events at Westminster yesterday, Lord Cranborne, the Lord Privy Seal, said that an appeal fund to build a memorial would be launched later this year and would be headed by Lord Weatherill, the former Speaker, and another veteran of the Indian Army, Viscount Slim, son of the wartime field marshal who commanded British forces in the Far East.

During the war, the Indian Army constituted the largest volunteer force ever assembled, and its men won no fewer than 31 VCs and 4,800 other awards for gallantry in the Allied cause. The form and location of a formal monument to them in the old imperial capital has yet to be decided.

India and Pakistan became independent on August 15, 1947. The moment was marked by the lowering of the Union Flag in Delhi and the blowing of a conch shell in the chamber of the Indian Assembly.

Lord Mountbatten, the last Viceroy, became the first governor-general. Within a month, violence had erupted as Muslims fleeing mainland India to the new Islamic state of Pakistan were massacred in the border state of Punjab. Meanwhile, Hindus fleeing from Pakistan were massacred.

Britain will mark its imperial history, and acknowledge Britain's population with roots in the sub-continent, with a programme of receptions and exhibitions. The Queen will visit India and Pakistan in October and her Buckingham Palace garden parties this summer will have a good number of guests from Britain's Asian community.

The Prince of Wales, who campaigns for a greater understanding of Islam and who last week visited Bangladesh, will host his own reception for Asians in Britain and will be guest of honour at a banquet for 1,500 Asians to be staged in the Royal Albert Hall.

In a message to the official launch of the commemorative programme yesterday, the Prince said that the year's events represented "a way in which we can all mark an important moment in the history of relations between this country and the countries of South Asia, recognising past connections whilst also looking to the future. In particular, it allows me to pay tribute to the enormous contribution made by the peoples of the sub-continent to British life."

Museums and arts festivals throughout Britain plan to take an Indian theme this year, starting with a concert at the Royal Albert Hall on March 17 featuring Ravi Shankar, the sitar maestro, and continuing with exhibitions of Indian crafts and textiles at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Politicians have already begun to milk the occasion. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, yesterday visited an Asian leather business in Bethnal Green, east London, and praised the community's entrepreneurship.

"At a time when roughly 40 per cent of the independent wholesale and retail sectors are in Asian hands, this and other businesses are clearly benefiting from the Conservative vision of opportunity for all," Mr Clarke said.

Letters, page 17

Woman chef fights men-only policy of Royal Marines

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

A WOMAN who tried to become a chef in the Royal Marines was told that only men were allowed to cook meals. Yesterday Angela Sirdar, who was trained as an army chef and wanted to switch to the marines, challenged the policy at an industrial tribunal.

She accused the marines of sex discrimination and claimed compensation from the Ministry of Defence at the hearing in Norwich. If she wins her case, which is expected to last two weeks, it could trigger a wave of similar claims in other areas of the Armed Forces where women are banned. The Government prohibits women from serving in combat units, although servicewomen can now be deployed closer to the front line than ever before.

Mrs Sirdar, 31, whose husband, Eugene, is a former marine, was made redundant from her job as a chef with the Army Catering Corps in 1995. She had been attached to 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery, based at Plymouth. Although it is an army regiment, it is assigned to the Royal Marines.

Mrs Sirdar applied to join the Royal Marines as a cook when she saw their advertisements inviting redundant army chefs to apply for a transfer. However, Mrs Sirdar, who has a five-year-old daughter, claimed she was told she could not apply to switch to the Royal Marines because she was a woman.

A former soldier who said that officers suggested, while she was pregnant, that she have an abortion, arrange an adoption or have the child brought up by her parents, has accepted a £4,000 payment from the Ministry of Defence. Angela Walker, 31, from Bonnybridge, Denny, had told a Glasgow industrial tribunal that while serving as a dog handler in the Royal Army Veterinary Corp at Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, she was picked on, verbally abused and given harder tasks because she was pregnant. The suggestion to terminate her pregnancy had been insensitive because she had lost two children through cot deaths.

She was told the policy was necessary because everyone serving in the marines had to be capable of fighting in a war. Women are allowed to join the Royal Marines only as musicians, who have a secondary role as stretcher-bearers in time of war. The Royal Marines said that allowing Mrs Sirdar to become a chef in the corps would be in breach of their traditional "inter-operability policy".

Mrs Sirdar, whose claim is backed by the Equal Opportunities Commission, is fighting the ruling on the grounds that the Royal Marines do not operate the policy on a day-to-day basis. She claims there are chefs serving with the Royal Marines who are not required to be fighting soldiers.

The Ministry of Defence is disputing her claim on the basis that "inter-operability is vital if the marines' combat effectiveness is not to be undermined". Yesterday the tribunal was shown recruitment brochures and watched two training videos.

The ministry has already paid £50 million to about 3,700 former servicewomen forced to end their careers when they became pregnant. That breached European equal opportunities legislation.

The hearing continues.

ALBAN DONOHOE



Angela Sirdar is claming sexual discrimation against the Ministry of Defence

Inspector says sexist officers ruined her job

By Kathryn Knight

AN EXCEPTIONAL woman police inspector had her career sabotaged by male officers after spurning one colleague's sexual advances and giving another a poor report, a tribunal was told yesterday.

Cydena Fleming was hailed as a "top-class CID officer" and told by the Police Promotions Board that she would go far. But within months she was subjected to repeated and institutionalised abuse by resentful male officers determined to remove her from Gainsborough station in Lincolnshire, an industrial tribunal in Nottingham was told.

When she complained, she was further ostracised and victimised.

Ms Fleming, from Gainsborough, is suing Lincolnshire Police for sexual harassment, claiming that between August and November 1995 senior officers failed to take up her grievance about alleged sexist behaviour.

Robin Allen, QC, for Ms Fleming, told the hearing that she had been a police officer for more than 20 years after starting her career with Humberside Police in 1975. She moved to the Lincolnshire force in 1986 and joined its CID in 1992. That same year, the author of her Police Promotions Board report had congratulated her on her performance and commented: "She is decisive, approachable and honest. She has a first-class brain and an abundance of enthusiasm. She has a clear manner and an air of confidence. She is resolute and positive."

But soon afterwards Ms Fleming began to be subjected to an "overwhelming picture of unjustified and unrelenting abuse", Mr Allen said. "Male police officers began to resent her presence. She was subjected to an amazing level of pressure from colleagues determined to be rid of her. One flirted with her, another was obsessed. She received abuse from other sergeants and a great deal of animosity. When the complaint was made she was misrepresented."

When Ms Fleming complained to senior officers, she received no help, it was alleged, and colleagues who planned to support her claims of a sexist whispering campaign were warned off.

Mr Allen told the tribunal that the Lincolnshire force was incapable of dealing with equal opportunities issues and had been repeatedly warned by the Inspectorate of Constabulary about its inadequate procedures.

The hearing continues.

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Tories must play up their strength, not parade their weakness

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Sensible parties do not talk about what divides them, but then the Tories are not in a sensible mood. If the Tories were serious, and self-disciplined, about winning a fifth term, they would forget about a single currency. There is absolutely no possibility of a re-elected Conservative Government taking Britain in during the next parliament, and an increasingly remote chance that a Blair administration would do either. Every time the subject is mentioned, it merely exposes Tory divisions and distracts attention away from the party's strengths, such as Kenneth Clarke's attempt last night to argue that the current recovery is sustainable without pushing up inflation.

First, we have the Foreign Secretary's remark that the Cabinet was "on balance hostile" to a single currency dismissed as a "slip of the tongue" by the Chancellor of the Exchequer; then the Health Secretary contradicts the Cabinet's "wait and see" policy before rapidly issuing a statement of clarification, with the Chancellor again saying everyone in the Cabinet agrees. It is, of course, *possible* that two such shrewd politicians as Malcolm Rifkind and Stephen Dorrell were afflicted by the same outbreak of selective memory. But it is a coincidence that Lady Bracknell might remark upon.

There are a variety of explanations. Mr Rifkind and Mr Dorrell may just have been blurting out the truth about the chances of British entry. But that is to assume a naivetee than neither has possessed for a very long time. They are both well aware of the agonising that preceeded the Cabinet's carefully crafted compromises. Mr Clarke's allies suspect that the two ministers are deliberating raising the issue now so that they can gradually push the policy further in a sceptic direction to make it clear that there is absolutely no chance of British membership in the next parliament. Mr Clarke has, of course, been firmly resisting such pressure, but the nearer that election day comes the harder it will be for Mr Clarke to exercise the nuclear threat of resignation.

Of course, the real argument is about the direction of the Tory party after the election. It is fascinating how eager the various leadership contenders are to court MPs, candidates in winnable seats and journalists. But while Mr Rifkind's stock is still rising as he conducts his tour of European capitals, Mr Dorrell's is in danger of collapsing. His burst of candour on Sunday was the third such incident this year, which is surprising for someone previously regarded as a good communicator and safe pair of hands. Moreover, Mr Dorrell has done himself no good with the pro-European Tory MPs who were previously among his staunchest allies.

It is fashionable to regard the Tory pro-Europeans as a dying species, but they are far from extinct. Admittedly, several of the Heath generation of pro-Europeans are retiring, but many are not. Even outside the current Cabinet, Peter Brooke and John MacGregor are prominent among those staying on. Several of the new MPs in safe seats are on that wing. So the battle is not over and a number of Tory pro-Europeans have said they will not back an outright anti-European line by their party.

In the short term, it is hard to see how the Tories can maintain a coherent and united front over the next eight and a bit weeks. What they should be doing is to stress John Major's experience, the man who knows how to tackle the problems of government, and their claims about keeping Britain competitive and economically successful: contrasing these with Tony Blair's inexperience and challenging Labour's economic promises. But I will bet that some minister, in a broadcasting studio, press conference or interview, will say something about Europe before May 1 that will remind voters of the Tory's deep divisions. It is the politics of self-destruction.

PETER RIDDELL

Labour promises to prosecute offenders under 14

BY FRANCES GIBB AND STEWART TENDLER

A LABOUR government would reverse the law under which children aged between 10 and 13 are presumed to be incapable of evil, Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said yesterday.

"This doctrine defies commonsense," he said. "Most young people aged 10-13 are clearly capable of knowing the difference between right and wrong. I think the present situation is mad. Kids get the idea they can get away with things and then at 15 or 16 they get into real trouble."

Mr Straw was pre-empting a Green Paper to be published today by Michael Howard, the Home Secretary. Mr Howard is expected to outline plans for curfews and fines on parents who refuse to control their delinquent children.

But Labour challenged him on why he is unwilling to scrap the common law principle that gives children some protection from the criminal law. Mr Straw outlined a six-point plan to tackle youth crime, including proposals to abolish the medieval *doli incapax* rule, which presumes that children over ten — the age of criminal responsibility — but under 14 do not know right from wrong unless proved otherwise. The Government has had the rule under review since 1995.

Mr Straw said: "This legal presumption makes it very difficult for youth courts to convict younger offenders and start the process of changing their offending behaviour."

But Mr Howard dismissed Labour's plans, saying that children could not use the *doli incapax* rule to escape criminal responsibility altogether. "If, for example, someone in that age group tore down a bus shelter, they would find it extraordinarily difficult to suggest that they didn't know that was something that was wrong to do, so this would make no difference whatsoever," he told BBC Radio 4's *World at One*.

He said that the House of Lords had ruled some time ago that the matter should be reviewed. "We've been looking at it, keeping it under review, listening to what the Crown Prosecution Service and the Association of Chief Police Officers have to say."

In his defence of the rule, he also found himself, for once, in agreement with the Penal Affairs Consortium. Paul Cavadino, chairman of the consortium, said: "Legal safeguards for children aged 10 to 13 should not be eroded. Labour's proposals would mean that children aged 10 to 13 were open to the full force of the criminal law at a much earlier age than in other west European countries." It would be a retrograde step and should not be done unless it went along with a raising of "our unusually low age of criminal responsibility".

Mr Straw said that a Labour government would streamline arrangements for putting juvenile offenders in secure accommodation, tackle anti-social behaviour and mete out swifter punishment to wrongdoers. The party also wanted parental responsibility orders that could force parents to attend training sessions aimed at improving their ability to control their children.

Community safety orders would also become law, he promised. The orders would be a form of injunction and breaching them could lead to imprisonment for adults, and in very serious cases to detention in secure accommodation for juveniles.

Mr Straw said that the youth justice system lacked a sense of urgency, and promised the practice of handing repeated cautions to young thugs would be replaced. "This will make it much easier for dedicated local youth offender teams, in place countrywide, to intervene and nip offending in the bud."

Mr Howard said that the difference between the two parties was that the Tories wanted to put young offenders into court quickly, and Labour wanted to keep them out of court. Labour had a "very elaborate proposal" for panels that would trigger "interventions", only after which young offenders would go to court.

The Government's approach was completely different, he said, involving only one caution in some cases, and giving courts the power to attach enforceable conditions to cautions.

"As with so many Labour policies you have to look beyond the headlines and the soundbites and look at the small print. Our approach is much more effective, much more likely to work and much more likely to offer reassurance to people."

Mr Howard announced that the Government had signed a contract for the first secure training centre for 12 to 14-year-olds who needed to be taken out of circulation. He said: "That was completely opposed by Labour when we took it through Parliament."

Leading article, page 17



A child parading himself on the streets of Middlesbrough hours after crashing a stolen car in 1992. He was aged 11

THE CONTINENTAL APPROACH

THE age of criminal responsibility for children varies widely across European countries.

According to figures provided by the Penal Affairs Consortium, no other country in Europe accepts criminal responsibility as low as the age of ten. The lowest age of criminal responsibility is 12, in The Netherlands and Turkey, and the highest is 18, in Belgium and Luxembourg. Other countries are as follows:

Austria 14; Bulgaria 14; Czech republic 15; Denmark 15; Finland 15; France 13; Germany 14; Greece 12; Hungary 14; Iceland 15; Italy 14; Norway 15; Poland 16; Portugal 16; Roumania 16; Slovakia 15; Spain 16; Sweden 15.

In most European countries children are dealt with by family courts.

Tender age is no bar to life of crime

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

YOUTH is no barrier to committing the worst crimes. Nearly 20 years ago Britain was shocked by the conviction of Mary Bell, aged 11, for the manslaughter of two boys.

Bell, now in her late 30s, is free on licence and the horror that her case provoked has now been superseded by the convction two years ago of Robert Thompson and Jon Venables, both 11, for the killing of James Bulger, aged 2, in Liverpool.

In June last year a 14-year-old boy from Coventry was jailed for 20 years for a hammer attack on a woman who had made sexual advances towards him. In the same month an 11-year-old boy who was found guilty of killing a pensioner by toppling a concrete slab from the twelfth storey of a building was sent home under a three-year supervision order. He was said by witnesses to have roared with laughter when told by friends that the slab had hit someone.

In the early part of this century even younger children could be brought before the courts. When the Children and Young Offenders Act was introduced in 1933 the minimum age to try a child was set at eight. It was not raised to ten until 1963. In 1969 the Labour Government planned to raise it to 14 except for murder but the party was forced out of office before the change could be implemented.

The new proposals come at a time when the number of children between 10 and 13 caught committing crime has fallen. In 1985 the Home Office estimated that 43,600 boys were dealt with either by the courts or by the police. By 1995 the figure had fallen to 34,200. The change could be due to demographic changes and fewer prosections.

In 1995, 2,900 boys and 300 girls were convicted of serious offences. Cautions were given to 86 per cent of the boys and 69 per cent of the girls.

Many of the offences committed by children are minor, such as theft or petty burglary, but last month a boy of ten was on trial at Luton crown court for arson. On Merseyside children have been known to attack prostitutes and steal their cash.

Are the young escaping punishment, or being denied help?

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

HORRIFIC crimes by children, such as the murder of James Bulger, have refuelled debate on the age at which young offenders should have to stand trial.

In England and Wales, the age at which a child may be held criminally responsible is ten. Children aged between ten and 13 are presumed in law to be *doli incapax* (incapable of criminal intent). This is a common law principle dating from the time of Edward III, who reigned from 1327 to 1377.

The principle does not mean that children aged ten to 14 cannot be convicted of crimes; the boys found guilty of killing James Bulger were both 11 at the time of the murder. But it does mean that the Crown must show "beyond reasonable doubt" that the child appreciated that what he or she did was "seriously wrong" as oppposed to naughty; and the younger the child, the stronger the evidence for rebuttal needed.

In 1995 the House of Lords prompted a government review of the *doli incapax* presumption when the law lords urged Parliament to remedy the "serious shortcomings" of the present law. This, they said, gave rise to "anomalies and absurdities".

To date no government proposals have been made.

The age of criminal responsibility has been created arbitrarily. As the status of children in society has improved, so generally has the age of criminal responsibility risen.

In the 17th century, it was set by Sir Edward Coke at 14. But a child below that age could be convicted if there was strong evidence that he or she had "mischievous discretion". Children as young as seven were prosecuted if they could be shown to have this "discretion" and it was not until 1927 that the Molony committee on young offenders recommended that the age be raised.

The minimum age of seven was then raised by legislation to eight in 1933 and then to ten years in 1963. In Scotland, by contrast, normal criminal responsibility attaches to a child at eight years, but the aim is to keep children out of the courts where possible. More than 90 per cent of all crimes committed by juveniles in Scotland are heard by Children's Hearings. This system, unique to Scotland, is designed to deal specifically with offences involving children, both as perpetrators and victims.

There are arguments to scrap the *doli incapax* rule. Mr Justice Laws has said that it is outmoded, stemming from an age when children were at risk of far fiercer punishments. Also, in an earlier age when education was not compulsory "perhaps children did not grow up as quickly as they do nowadays".

He argued that the presumption was out of step with the general law; that the test "seriously wrong" was obscure; that it was nonsensical because it could be rebutted simply by proving that a child was of normal mental capacity for his age, and said it could give rise to injustice if a child's previous convictions were admitted in evidence.

Finally he said the rule was divisive because it tended to "attach criminal consequences to the acts of children coming from what used to be called good homes" and perverse, because it tended to "absolve from criminal responsibility the very children most likely to commit criminal acts."

Professor Glanville Williams, a leading criminal law specialist, has also argued that the rule stands in the way, not of punishment, but of educational treatment. "It saves the child not from prison, transportation, or the gallows, but from the probation officer, the foster parent, or the approved school."

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Labour warned of lost Muslim votes

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE ousted Labour MP Max Madden has warned the leadership that the choice of a Sikh to replace him in Bradford West will cost the party votes.

The Tories have high hopes of scoring an upset in Bradford after choosing Mohammed Riaz, a Muslim Labour defector, to challenge Mr Madden's 9,000 majority.

Marsha Singh won a controversial selection process last month after Mr Madden was deselected. He narrowly beat a Muslim trade unionist. Muslims account for 23 per cent of the population in Bradford West, Indians 4.5 per cent, and whites 72.5 per cent. Mr Madden, in a letter to Tom Sawyer, Labour's general secretary, said: "I do know that Bradford West faces exceptional difficulties. The Tory parliamentary candidate, a Labour defector, will seek Muslim support on the basis that Labour is anti-Muslim as a Sikh was chosen. Marsha Singh will face some Muslim hostility and white hostility as an Asian."

Mr Madden's fears have been underlined by Mohammed Ajeeb, who was Britain's first Muslim mayor. He said: "Labour has a Sikh candidate and there will be a backlash from the Muslim population.



Madden: replaced by Sikh candidate

The Tory candidate is exploiting the situation, telling local Muslims that they were the majority in the Labour Party and deserved this seat. It will have an impact."

In city council elections in the Heaton ward in May there were anti-Labour swings of up to 30 per cent in predominately white areas. Labour lost a by-election to the Tories in the area in September.

Mr Madden warned Mr Sawyer to flood the seat with Labour activists. "Assuming it is a safe seat, where any Labour candidate will be elected, could be most unwise."

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: Environment questions; Prime Minister's questions; Scottish Revenue Support Grant reports; Housing Support Grant (Scotland) Order; Welsh Development Agency Bill, remaining stages; backbench debate on road traffic in Wilford, Nottingham. In the Lords: Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Bill, committee; Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse) Bill, committee.

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British firms face fee for envoys' role in clinching deals

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

A PLAN to charge companies which use British ambassadors to secure lucrative contracts abroad is being examined by the Government.

The proposal to put a price on the success of senior diplomats in business deals is one of a series of options being considered by a Cabinet Office study. It reflects the growing influence of ambassadors in chasing vital contracts overseas and lobbying foreign ministers in favour of British industry.

The image of our man abroad in a panama hat and white shorts no longer fits the cut-throat diplomatic business of attracting new jobs and investment to Britain. A senior Foreign Office official said last week: "Diplomats are getting a buzz from seeing those contracts signed."

In recent deals for Britain, senior diplomats have worked closely with business leaders to win contracts. Among the successes is the £1 billion British Aerospace contract with the Australian Government for Hawk trainer jets which was pursued by Sir Roger Carrick, the High Commissioner in Canberra.

Another £1 billion deal was won in China for BP where Sir Len Appleyard, the Ambassador, is credited with clinching the contract. Similarly Chris Wilson, the Consul-General in Dubai, helped to secure a £300 million contract for Rolls-Royce engines.

The Government is checking whether this high-level involvement of diplomats is appropriate, and whether the range of services on offer to companies of all sizes is sufficient to help industry and boost exports.

The study has been set up by Sir Peter Levine, who heads the Prime Minister's efficiency unit. He wanted to examine the Foreign Office's range of activities in commmerce and to identify more opportunities for businessmen to move into key posts in embassies.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, has announced that a future Labour government would appoint businessmen as ambassadors to key trading nations.

The Foreign Office already charges companies for a range of services from market intelligence to support at trade fairs abroad and tip-offs about export opportunities. The fees were introduced to stop time-wasting inquiries.

One Whitehall source said that charging had improved services offered by the Foreign Office. "It concentrates the mind when you are preparing a brief if you know a company is going to pay £500 for the information. There is more motivation to get it right." Revenue from the charges was about £1 million last year, a negligible amount compared with the multimillion-pound investment into Britain from overseas companies.

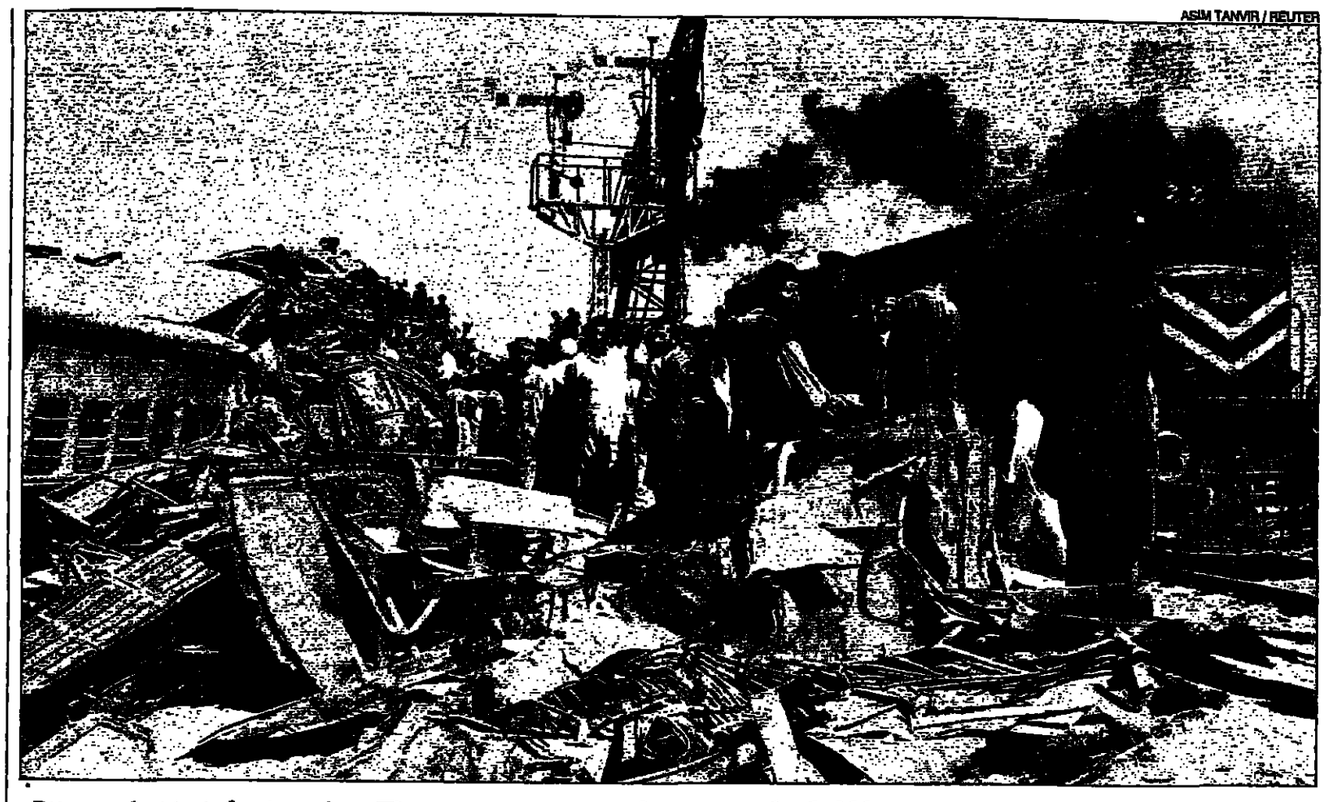
Tom Harris, the former Ambassador to South Korea, is to take up the post of director-general of export promotion this month. He will head the joint team that works together in a special export unit in the Department of Trade and Industry. New trade campaigns are to focus on Japan, Latin America and Central Europe while, closer to home, Italy is also being targeted.

The Government's decision to boost this work was enhanced by a recent National Audit Office survey which said that, for every pound spent on government support for business, £78 was returned.

The new business approach at the Foreign Office featured recently in a speech by Sir John Coles, Permanent Secretary at the Foreign Office, who signalled the "sea change" in the way embassies operate. He noted that last year the Foreign Office had attracted 48,000 new jobs to Britain and that diplomats spent 35 per cent of their time on commercial interests.

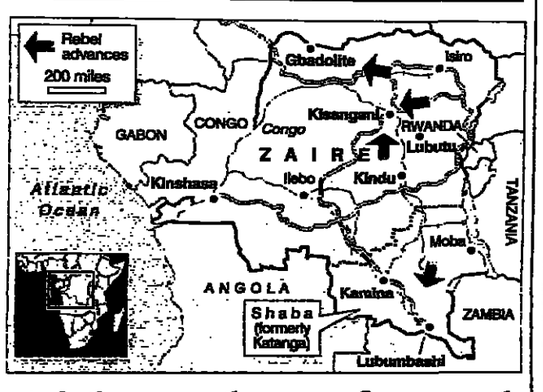
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ASIM TANVIR / REUTER



Rescue workers try to free trapped passengers after at least 125 people were killed and 175 injured when a crowded train jumped the track in the eastern Pakistani province of Punjab yesterday. Hundreds of passengers were trapped when the brakes of the train, which was travelling at 60mph, failed before dawn near Khaniwal station. It was switched to a dead-end line to stop it from ramming another passenger train head-on. The 17-carriage train, en route from Peshawar in North West Frontier Province to the southern port city of Karachi, was carrying more than 1,500 passengers. Most were asleep at the time. More than 1,500 people have died in accidents on Pakistan's badly managed and outdated rail system in the past few years.

Runaway train crash kills 125



Aid workers forced to flee Kisangani

BY SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

ZAIRE'S rebel leader begged the United Nations to help Rwandan Hutu refugees to return home after he overran their camp in eastern Zaire in a weekend offensive that left government forces reeling.

Kisangani yesterday looked unlikely to hold out long against the Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-Zaire after guerrillas marched into Lubutu and Kindu. They had met little resistance from government troops or Hutu militiamen who had been among 170,000 refugees in Tingi-Tingi camp close to Lubutu.

Aid workers were evacuated to Kinshasa, the capital, on charter aircraft after being threatened by mercenaries of the "white legion", many of them Serbs who were recruited this year to defend Zairean territory.

The mercenaries have had limited success and are detested by government forces because they earn $2,000 (£1,230) a month, compared with a soldier's basic wage of $2 a month.

The rebels also stepped up their operations in Shaba province and, in the far north of Zaire, claimed to be marching on President Mobutu's palace in Gbadolite.

According to the *Zambia Daily Mail*, deserting government soldiers have begun to trickle into Zambia's northern Copperbelt and Lualapa provinces after fleeing the rebels. If this turns out to be true, it shows that the rebels also threaten Lubumbashi, capital of Shaba province.

Michelle Quintaglie, a spokeswoman for the UN World Food Programme who was in Kisangani last week, said she did not believe that the town would hold out long against the rebels. "I also can't see the mercenaries hanging around there to get killed," she said.

The agency was trying to monitor the movements of 170,000 Hutus from Tingi-Tingi camp who were seen from the air walking north towards Kisangani, 150 miles away.

Mr Kabila said that he wanted the UN to help him to find the refugees and supply them with enough food for the long march back to Rwanda.



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Netanyahu agrees second Jerusalem settlement plan

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

TENSION between Israelis and Palestinians escalated yesterday as Israel's Defence Minister approved fresh plans to build thousands of Jewish homes on occupied Arab land north of Jerusalem, in addition to the development at Har Homa for 32,000 Jews.

The disclosure in *Haaretz* of the latest expansion on land captured from Jordan in 1967 came as hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in occupied east Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza Strip staged a protest strike over the Har Homa scheme.

The stoppage was called by the Palestine Legislative Council. Further protests planned will pit Arabs against Jews as they will involve physical attempts to prevent bulldozers starting work at the site this month. According to the newspaper, the new scheme approved by Yitzhak Mordechai, the Defence Minister, is designed to create "territorial continuity" between occupied east Jerusalem and the largest West Bank settlement of Maaleh Adumim, north of the holy city on the road to the tiny Palestinian self-ruled enclave of Jericho.

The scheme will see the construction of 1,500 flats and 3,000 hotel rooms for Jews. The new settlement will affect Arab villages and tighten Israel's hold over east Jerusalem, which it claims as part of its "eternal and undivided capital".

The scheme was part of a hardline agenda approved when Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, attended a meeting of 2,000 activists from the central committee of his Likud Party in Tel Aviv on Sunday night. He made clear that, despite world and Arab opposition, the Har Homa project would go ahead.

"Jerusalem is ours," he said. "Whoever asks Israel to give up the unity of Jerusalem does not understand how this chord plays on our hearts." Mr Netanyahu, cheered to the rafters by supporters anxious for Likud to return to its ideological roots, added: "We will build everywhere we decide, and no one — no one — will prevent us."

The final resolution of the meeting states: "The central committee determines that the sovereignty of Israel must be implemented in the unified city of Jerusalem, which must be built without delay, including at Har Homa and the open areas between Maaleh Adumim and Jerusalem."

Yesterday, Mr Netanyahu attempted to defuse growing Arab anger by attending the start of the first in a series of building projects for Palestinians in east Jerusalem. But Palestinian leaders dismissed the gesture. "It is like someone who has stolen your wallet offering you a bit of change back," one official said.

The hardline Likud decision comes weeks before Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation are due to resume negotiations on a permanent peace agreement, which under the broad 1993 self-rule deal must include talks on the future of Jerusalem, which the Palestinians also claim as their capital.

Clinton rebukes Israel

Washington: President Clinton sent a strong signal to the Middle East last night, denouncing Israel's decision to build a controversial Jewish settlement in Arab east Jerusalem (Tom Rhodes writes).

The move came as he opened talks in Washington with Yassir Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority.

Offering public American support for Mr Arafat's demands that not a single house should be built at Har Homa, near Jerusalem, Mr Clinton said the decision by the Likud Government last week could only create mistrust in the Middle East peace process.

The Government of Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, has provoked widespread criticism over its plan to build 6,500 homes at the site.

The scheme is seen by Palestinians as a plot to encircle Arab settlements and undermine their goal of making east Jerusalem the capital of a Palestinian state.

"I don't think it builds confidence, I think it builds mistrust," said Mr Clinton as he met Mr Arafat. "I wish that [the decision] had not been made."

Although Mr Arafat was meeting Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, and a few congressmen yesterday, many Republicans have refused to see him.

MICHAEL PROBST/AP



Protesters near Dannenberg, north Germany yesterday attempt to block the transport of nuclear waste to Gorleben

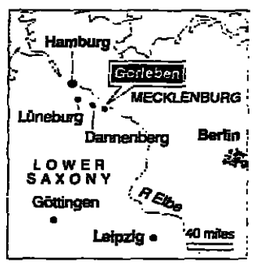
Rail saboteurs slow nuclear waste train

FROM ROGER BOYES IN LÜNEBURG

ANTI-NUCLEAR demonstrators yesterday managed to delay Germany's controversial atomic waste train but, with more than 200 border troops riding shotgun, it continued to roll towards the north German burial site that is its destination.

Helicopters clattered overhead, armoured cars were positioned in railway station forecourts and 30,000 police, most in riot gear, were deployed along the train route which stretched almost the length of Germany.

It was a day for saboteurs rather than all-out battle: that face-to-face confrontation is expected today and tomorrow as the six containers of spent or recycled nuclear fuel are unloaded by crane and placed on trucks for the 12-mile drive to Gorleben. The saboteurs, acting like partisans in an undeclared war, occupied platforms and railway tracks near the university town of Göttingen. Callers claimed a bomb had been placed on a high-speed train in Hamburg; no explosives were found but the disruption was huge.



Outside Leipzig, rocks were thrown at an express. Elsewhere, as in the past four or five days, rails were sawn through with hacksaws and electric cables torn down. On the critical last stretch, between Lüneburg and Dannenberg stations, police with dogs combed every yard.

As the six canisters of waste weighing about 720 tonnes crept closer to Gorleben, bulldozers were being moved into position to crash through the barriers of immobilised tractors which are already blocking approach roads to the town. Behind the blockade, militants have dug wide trenches in the road. The nuclear transport will almost certainly need the support of engineers to cover the last few miles.

The whole operation is set to cost around £36 million. If the same process has to be repeated for every nuclear waste disposal, the Government may be forced to rethink its strategy.

British 'trade in torture' attacked

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITISH companies and arms dealers based in Britain are evading export controls to sell electronic batons, stun guns and crowd control weapons that are being used to torture political opponents, Amnesty International says in a report out today.

Some electro-stun weapons cause shocks of up to 50,000 volts, and have been used repeatedly on people, causing them to faint, lose bowel control and even die from heart attacks. Amnesty said that there was a growing market in riot control and surveillance equipment that was being misused.

British companies are among the leading manufacturers and agents for such equipment. Amnesty cited a company that has advertised razor wire giving off electric shocks. Another company has developed a security vehicle with electrified side panels to repulse demonstrators.

Britain bans the export of electro-shock equipment without a licence, and insists that a buyers' human rights record is taken into account. But Amnesty says the Government fails to give details, and does not allow public scrutiny of licence applications.

British law fails to control equipment brokered by dealers in Britain if the goods are made abroad and never pass through Customs. One company is said to have offered to arrange shipment of electro-shock equipment manufactured in Mexico.

A stun belt inflicts eight-second shocks on a prisoner using 50,000 volts through the left kidney, causing incapacitation and leaving welts. The company marketing them speaks of "total psychological supremacy ... of potentially troublesome prisoners".

Amnesty said it had evidence of electro-stun human rights violation in 50 countries since 1990, including America, Turkey, India and South Africa. It called for the suspension of stun belts and electro-shock weapons for law enforcement, a public inquiry into their use and a ban on their brokerage in Britain or transfer to any country where they are used for torture.

Local polls buoy Kohl, but family likely to have the casting vote

BY ROGER BOYES

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, has been given an important nudge towards standing for re-election in October 1998. His Christian Democrats did surprisingly well in Sunday's local elections and the ballot may end the Government's decomposition..

The German leader, buoyed by the result, is now ready at least to signal his candidacy in one of his thinly-coded interviews after the Easter break. The assumption is that the Chancellor will run on a kind of double ticket with the chief of his parliamentary party, Wolfgang Schäuble. If Herr Kohl is re-elected he would prepare to hand over to Herr Schäuble in 2000.

In the elections, despite record unemployment and widely disapproved welfare and public spending cuts, the Chancellor's party gained 1 per cent to reach 33 per cent of the vote in Hesse, one of Germany's wealthiest states. The Social Democrats also gained 1.6 per cent on the 1993 result.

"These elections represent an endorsement for the reform policies of Chancellor Helmut Kohl," said Peter Hintze, the party's general secretary. That would probably be stretching the case, and not all the results were encouraging for the Chancellor. The Free Democrats — his coalition partner — performed dismally, dropping from 5.1 per cent to 4 per cent.

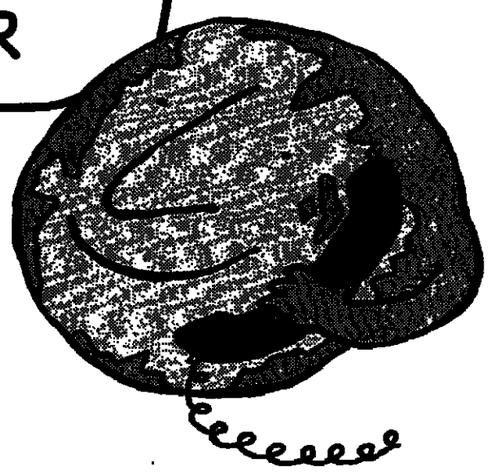
But the political message seems to be that Germans accept the principle of Herr Kohl engaging the Social Democrats in cross-party talks to co-operate on tax and welfare reforms. It might also suggest that Germans prefer a grand coalition.

Weekend leaks suggest that unemployment reached 4.8 million in February. The increasing number of job losses has not radicalised the political climate in Germany; the comparisons between Bonn and the Weimar Republic do not hold water. Instead, Germans seem to want the Chancellor to make more concessions, to shield weaker groups and to generate jobs. The decision to stand again in 1998 is, however, a deeply personal one. Herr Kohl has denied rumours of ill-health but his wife, Hannelore, has been urging him since 1994 to step down and concentrate on his family life.

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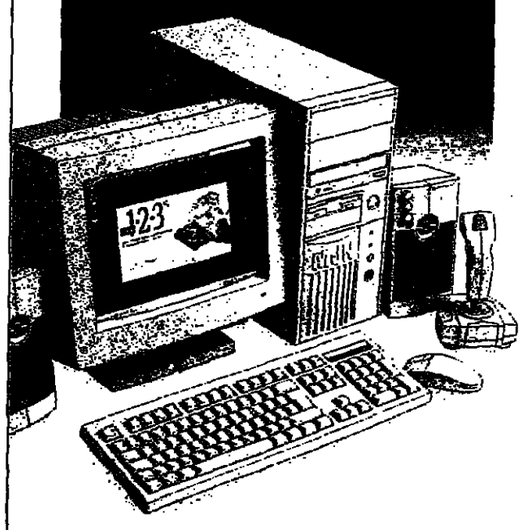
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British 'trade in torture' attacked

Shoot-to-kill crackdown in Albania

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN TIRANA

PRESIDENT Berisha was re-elected by Albania's rubber-stamp parliament yesterday and immediately moved to crush the armed rebellion against his rule in the south with an "iron fist", ordering security forces to open fire on protesters who failed to lay down looted weapons.

Opposition leaders advised supporters to stay indoors in what amounts to martial law. But in the port of Vlore and other southern towns, lawlessness prevailed. Gunfire filled the streets as people let loose volleys from weapons captured from police arsenals. "We are the government," thousands chanted in Vlore. But they called off a planned armed march on the capital "for fear of more bloodshed".

Parliament, dominated by Mr Berisha's Democratic Party, voted on Sunday night for the state of emergency after an explosion of violence. Protesters overran police stations and army barracks and seized weapons. In Vlore and Sarande, protesters controlled the streets. Mr Berisha's summer villa above Vlore was looted and set on fire.

Many Albanians blame the President and his party for failing to control fraudulent pyramid schemes in which tens of thousands have lost all their money. The revolt has gradually evolved into an uprising, and Mr Berisha's re-election — by MPs under the constitution — angered those who want him to step down or be put on trial.

Emergency regulations issued yesterday include a dusk-to-dawn curfew and restrictions on press freedom, with strict censorship. Any group of more than four people in the street will be regarded as an illegal gathering, and police have power to detain suspects for 48 hours without explanation or redress. Roadblocks appeared on all roads to the south.

No Albanian newspapers appeared yesterday. The offices of the main opposition newspaper, *Koha Jone*, were burnt and ransacked on Sunday night. Ben Blushi, the editor, said 30 suspected secret police agents, attacked with blowtorches. The paper would try to publish on underground presses to overcome "this information blackout".

The re-election of Mr Berisha for a five-year term was a foregone conclusion, given that his party has 122 of parliament's 140 seats. But it was not the happy event for which he might have hoped when first elected in 1992: troops with automatic weapons blocked off the scruffy gardens in front of the neo-classical building. Inside, Democratic MPs — the ten Socialist members have boycotted parliament — stood and chanted "Sali Berisha". He vowed in his acceptance speech to "crush this uprising by Red terrorists". Heavy security prevented protests across Tirana. At one stage, onlookers surrounding a car accident in the central Skanderbeg Square threatened to develop into a crowd big enough to stage a demonstration, but police appeared to disperse them. "This is the death knell of Berisha's hopes," said *Koha Jone* in a defiant last editorial. "If we must die, let it not be like pigs ... there will be no peace in Vlore or in Albania as a whole as long as Berisha is still in power." The newspaper accused the European Union of turning a blind eye to Mr Berisha's crackdown. Foreign reporters and broadcasters — many of whom have been assaulted by secret police agents — were ordered to leave Vlore by yesterday afternoon. The Government accuses Western broadcasters of exacerbating the situation by transmitting direct TV pictures. Many Albanians have satellite dishes, or watch Italian and Greek television.

> "If we must die, let it not be like pigs ... there will be no peace in Vlore or Albania while Berisha is in power"

Albanians said they were having difficulty hearing the widely trusted BBC Albanian Service. "We need the BBC more than ever," said Eduard, 20, a student on hunger strike. "Albania is closed to the outside world again."

Diplomats said it was not clear to what extent Mr Berisha could rely on the army of 60,000 men, a third of whom are conscripts. Their discipline is uncertain and — like the police — many have suffered pyramid fund losses. The only reliable force is the secret police, or Shik. Its agents can be seen patrolling Tirana's streets at night with automatic weapons.

Europe's conscience, page 16
Photograph, page 26

VITTORIO ARCIERI / AP



Italian coastguards patrol off Brindisi yesterday as fears grew of a mass arrival of Albanians. In 1991 tens of thousands of refugees crowded onto ferries and homemade rafts



President Berisha: pledge to rout "this rebellion"

Secret police play by old rules

BY JAMES PETTIFER

IN ALL Balkan countries, the knock on the door in the night is nothing new. The Sultan needed to know about events in his sprawling domains as Barry Unsworth showed in *Pascali's Island*, his novel of Ottoman espionage.

In 1930s Albania, King Zog had a British officer "gendamerie" whose main role was political. When Enver Hoxha's Communists seized power in 1944, intelligence was vital and the feared Sigurimi secret police were born. Under 50 years of dictatorship, the Sigurimi mushroomed into a vast network of spies and informers that even encouraged children to tell on their parents.

According to President Berisha's myth, swallowed after 1992 by Western leaders, the new Shik National Information Agency had broken with such traditions. First America, then Germany, provided assistance. But it seems the old leopard had not changed its spots.

Shik, answerable directly to the President, has recruited tough young men from northern Albania, often from the President's home area, and kitted them out in designer leather jackets. There are allegations of Mafia connections and it is said to have played a key part in last May's fraudulent elections.

The Opposition may not have clean hands. In communist times, Vlore was the centre of Sigurimi recruitment, and Tirana government allegations that old networks have been activated to arm demonstrators cannot be dismissed completely.

The West's belief that strong presidencies foster Balkan stability ignores the fact that unaccountable police organisations flourish under such leaders. President Berisha's Albania is no exception. If there is a bloodbath, there will be difficult questions to answer in Western chancelleries, notably Bonn.

Italy mobilises anti-immigrant force to repel Adriatic exodus

BY JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ALBANIA'S neighbours were on alert last night as President Berisha moved to stamp out the rebellion. Italy began evacuating foreigners from the troubled southern city of Vlore, and put its navy on maximum alert. Greece stopped its ferry service to Albania and stepped up patrols along its northern frontiers.

The Italian Foreign Ministry said that two of its Chinook helicopters landed at Vlore and airlifted 36 European citizens, including ten journalists.

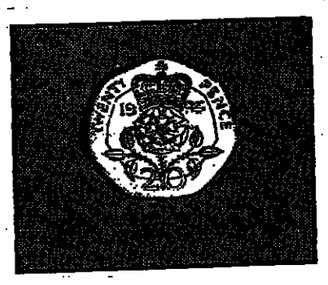
Giuseppe Mazzitello, the Prefect of Bari, who is also Italy's Special Commissar for Immigration Emergencies, mobilised thousands of coastguards, police, customs officials and paramilitary Carabinieri to head off the expected human tide. Italian officials believe that bad weather in the Adriatic has so far prevented attempts to escape the turmoil en masse but the risk of an influx will increase as calm seas arrive. "The progressive improvement in the weather could unleash a biblical exodus from Albania toward Apulia," the Ansa Italian news agency said.

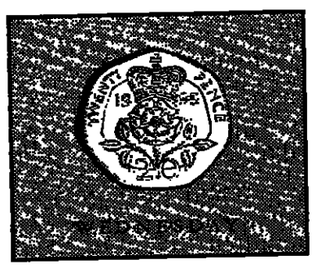
Professor Romano Prodi, the Prime Minister, summoned a meeting of his inner Cabinet at Palazzo Chigi amid growing concern of an exodus of Albanians. Among those present were Lamberto Dini, the Foreign Minister, Beniamino Andreatta, the Defence Minister, and Giorgio Napolitano, the Interior Minister. An influx of Albanian refugees in 1991 led to weeks of rioting and clashes with police in the port of Bari. The city became a battlefield after 20,000 mainly barefoot Albanians arrived in the port aboard the *Vlora*, a rusting hulk.

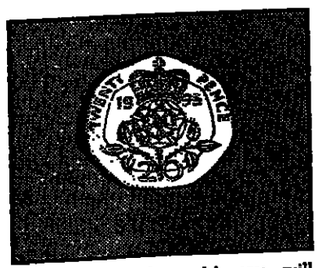
Opposition politicians accused Signor Dini of ignoring the Mafia's disastrous penetration of Albania from southern Italy. Luciano Violante, the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, said: "The Italian underworld has been operating in Albania and therefore we, too, have contributed to the situation there."

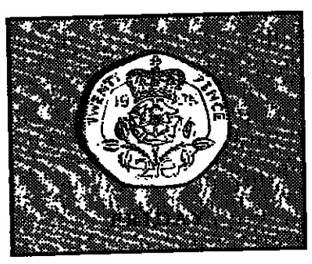
Massimo D'Alema, the leader of the dominant Democratic Party of the Left, formerly the Communists, said Italy should do everything possible to stabilise the situation in Albania, including providing financial aid to help the Tirana Government to compensate Albanians who suffered at the hands of a huge Mafia-inspired financial fraud.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Tirana, Mgr Rrok Mirdita, urged Italy to intervene to stem the bloodshed "to avoid the worst". He said: "At this point the Albanians need a point of reference. I ask Prime Minister Prodi to intervene directly in the Albanian affair."



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Hong Kong journalists forbidden to criticise China after handover



Tung: mainland laws "will be obeyed"

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

HONG KONG'S new Chief Executive has indicated that the press under Chinese rule will have the same restraints as on the mainland.

Tung Chee-hwa told CNN that after July 1 the press must avoid "slanderous or derogatory remarks or personal remarks". Offensive comments are "certainly not in the Chinese culture". China's press often vilifies the regime's enemies both internally and abroad, calling Chris Patten, the outgoing Governor, a whore, for example. Mr Tung's warning echoes earlier threats by Qian Qichen, the Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister, and Lu Ping, Chairman of the Hong and Hong and Macau Office, both of whom have said the press would not be allowed to criticise Chinese leaders.

This view was contested by Tsang Tak Sing, chief editor of *Ta Kong Pao*, the leading Beijing-supported paper. Both Mr Qian and Mr Lu, he said, "are unaware of the operational facts, they are not journalists". Mr Tsang said: "It's impossible for a newspaper to criticise a policy without criticising the man who made it." Mr Tung endorsed a ban on attacks on national leaders by noting that in Hong Kong it is forbidden to make slanderous remarks about the Queen. Asked when anyone had been prosecuted for such an offence, Mr Tung replied: "There will be laws in Hong Kong; these laws will be obeyed."

Elsie Leung, appointed by Mr Tung to be his first Justice Secretary, has also said that after July 1, calling out "Down with Premier Li Peng" may be an offence.

Chinese officials in Hong Kong have condemned as interference the proposal by 24 American congressmen that Hong Kong journalists could be granted visas if they felt threatened after July 1. Carol Lai, vice-chairman of the Hong Kong Journalists' Association, said that many of her members felt uncertain about the future.

In a move likely to attract lawsuits, China's Provisional Legislative Council for Hong Kong is to debate and pass laws long before July 1, when it becomes the official law making body. Hong Kong would therefore have two legislatures simultaneously passing laws which could be contradictory.

Rita Fan, the provisional council's president, said the body would debate and pass laws which would be signed after the handover by Mr Tung. She said she expected China's National People's Congress, now meeting in Beijing, to give the provisional body the right to legislate.

Mr Tung has said repeatedly that the provisional council already has this right but has commended that receiving the congress's imprimatur would be "like receiving A-plus when you already have an A". The provisional group is already meeting in Shenzhen.

Martin Lee, chairman of the Democrats in the existing council, has threatened to challenge the provisional body in the courts if it begins to legislate before July 1.

On Sunday, Tao Siju, Beijing's Public Security Minister, said that Chinese security personnel attending senior leaders for the handover ceremonies should be allowed to carry weapons before July 1 and that the matter is being discussed. On Saturday, Eddie Hui, the Police Commissioner, had said such permission is never granted to foreign bodyguards.

Leading article, page 17

Portillo pins hopes on howitzer deal to boost trade in US

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

THE United States Marine Corps is on the verge of placing an order worth several hundred million dollars for howitzers from British companies in partnership with American firms, Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, said yesterday on a two-day visit here.

Vickers, working with US manufacturer Textron, and British Aerospace, working with United Defence, have emerged as the remaining two contenders for supplying the lightweight howitzers, due for delivery around 2000. Britain hopes that the deal will be worth far more as the US Army may follow suit.

The howitzer sale would help to correct an imbalance in defence procurement between Britain and the United States, which is a central theme of Mr Portillo's talks with William Cohen, the new Defence Secretary, as well the National Security Council, the Pentagon and members of Congress. Britain has about $4 billion (£2.46 billion) in outstanding orders from US defence companies, compared with $1 billion US orders from British companies.

Britain has been concerned that big orders from the US military go almost invariably to domestic companies, as occurred with the recent purchase of air-to-air missiles.

Mr Portillo called yesterday for procurement to be a "two-way street". His visit marks the first meeting between Mr Cohen, the sole Republican in President Clinton's Cabinet, and a representative of another Nato country. Mr Portillo said yesterday that he thought it was "still realistic" to hope that terms for enlarging the North Atlantic alliance would be agreed by July.

However, the question of whether a European or an American would command Nato's southern forces remains "quite delicate at this point", Mr Portillo said. The French Government has insisted that a European officer must be in charge of the Southern Command if France is to rejoin an integrated Nato command structure.

Mr Portillo also cast a cold eye on the notion that Nato enlargement should be closely connected with an enlargement of the European Union, a central theme of the recent European visit by Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State.

He said that while Nato members "need to be considerate of Turkey's sensitivities", he thought it wrong for Turkey, a member of Nato but not the EU, to introduce its desire for EU membership into Nato negotiations.

In an apparent contrast with US views, Mr Portillo added that Nato allies went into Bosnia together and should leave together. "I regard the operation that we're undertaking as being a Nato operation," he said of the current peace mission.

Mr Cohen has said that US troops will definitely leave Bosnia at the end of the present 18-month mission in mid-1998 and that if further military presence is needed the troops should come from Europe.

President Clinton, who last year ordered an extension of the US presence in Bosnia, faces sharp criticism from the Republican-controlled Congress, which is in the process of debating his proposed Budget for 1998. The US currently has about 7,500 troops in Bosnia as part of an allied force of 30,000. Britain and France are the other main contributors to the peace force.



Cohen: talks focused on arms trade imbalance

Oklahoma suspect 'did not confess'

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE chief lawyer representing Timothy McVeigh, the leading suspect for the Oklahoma City bombing, last night accused a newspaper of stealing the defence's computer files to publish an alleged confession to America's worst act of terrorism.

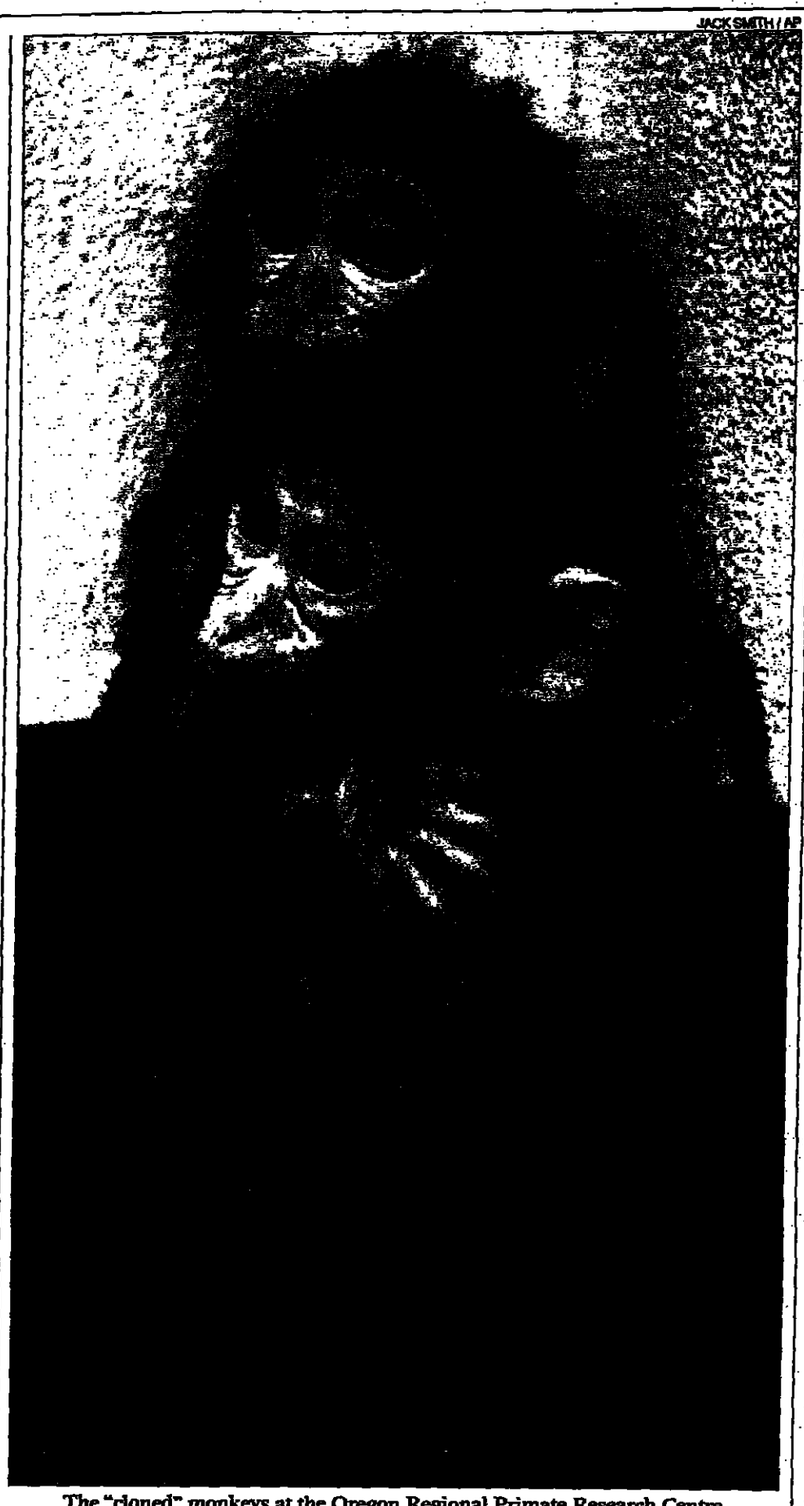
Stephen Jones, calling for a federal investigation into the matter, said the *Dallas Morning News* had hacked into his computer system and retrieved a document which was not legitimate testimony by Mr McVeigh.

The newspaper, in a story it said was based on summaries of interviews between the defendant and his lawyers, claimed that Mr McVeigh, 28, had admitted the bombing on April 19, 1995, which killed 168 adults and children.

He was reported to have planned a daytime attack to guarantee a "body count". The paper said yesterday that it would publish no further documents in response to concerns that more reports could jeopardise Mr McVeigh's chances of a fair trial in Denver at the end of this month.

"They knew, or they should have known, that they had stolen documents," said Mr Jones. "It is not a confession by Tim McVeigh, it was not then, it is not now." Mr Jones cited a gagging order by Richard Matsch, the judge trying the case, which prevented him from revealing any further details.

JACK SMITH / AP



The "cloned" monkeys at the Oregon Regional Primate Research Centre

Scientists make monkeys by cloning technology

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN scientists have "cloned" a monkey and hope next to produce a laboratory "supercow".

Last month's announcement from Scotland that scientists at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh had produced a cloned sheep has been widely covered in America. The news sparked an immediate riposte from the Oregon Regional Primate Research Centre, which announced that it had "cloned" two rhesus monkeys. The "nuclear transfer" procedure was similar to that used by Dr Ian Wilmut in Edinburgh.

The Oregon scientists said that their success was the first artificial reproduction of animals so closely related to humans. The scientists first developed several embryos using in-vitro fertilisation treatment.

When these were just eight cells in size, they were split and grown separately, before being transplanted into a female chimpanzee's womb. The researchers claimed that the successful production of the monkeys — which, complete with tattoed identification numbers, will be looked after by their surrogate mothers — may assist medical research.

Dr Neal First, from the University of Wisconsin, in America's dairy belt, said his laboratory technicians were optimistic about producing a cloned dairy cow that would be able to produce 40,000lb of milk a year. Dr First hopes that such a productive milk cow could increase profits for American farmers. A calf is expected in the next ten months.

The American biologists are working in an academic system that is intensely competitive and in which a well-publicised experiment, more than ever before, can bring financial and professional rewards.

Barbara Koenig, a senior scientist at Stanford University, said that since news broke of the Roslin Institute's success, "it has been cloning hell around here". Such is the rush for a follow-up to Dolly, the much-discussed Scottish sheep.

At the same time, Hollywood has reacted quickly to the cloning breakthrough, displaying similar competitive zeal to the folk in white coats. Producers are said to be falling over themselves in the hunt for a good cloning film script and there will be rich opportunities for film consultants with cloning expertise.

In the real world, however, Americans appear to have grave doubts about the ethics of the latest achievements.

A *Time* magazine poll suggested that 89 per cent of US citizens consider cloning to be wrong, a statistic that is likely to rise in the light of remarks from religious leaders, including the influential Cardinal John O'Connor of New York. The Roman Catholic denounced cloning as "morally repugnant".

Renault protest hits EU

Brussels: Several thousand workers marched through the EU district here yesterday in protest against the closure of a Renault car factory (Charles Bremner writes). The decision has sharpened Belgium's sense of crisis and embittered relations with France.

As employees from the Vilvoorde plant, in the northern outskirts of Brussels, shot fire-crackers at European Union buildings, the Government of Jean-Luc Dehaene said it would sue Renault for an alleged breach of EU directives on worker dismissal procedures.

Yeltsin meets Euro leaders

Moscow: President Yeltsin met European Union leaders yesterday for talks put off last month after doctors advised him against flying to The Hague (Robin Lodge writes).

The aim of the meeting with Jacques Santer, European Commission President, and Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister, was to show that Mr Yeltsin is fit again and in control as head of state.

Strike doctors delay death

Warsaw: About 30,000 Polish doctors intensified a year-long dispute with the Government by refusing to fill out death certificates (Patricia Koza writes). Members of the Union of Polish Physicians are issuing substitute documents that will permit burial, but cause a clerical logjam that could delay probate, social security and insurance payments.

Berlin guards regret killing

Berlin: Two former East German border guards on trial here, said they were sorry for the 1962 killing of Peter Fechter, 17. He was shot in the pelvis while trying to scale the Berlin Wall. He called in vain for help for about 50 minutes as he slowly bled to death. The two guards face manslaughter and attempted manslaughter charges. *(Reuter)*

Power cut to Marcos crypt

Manila: Imelda Marcos, the widow of Ferdinand Marcos, demanded a hero's burial here for the late dictator after the Government cut off power to his refrigerated crypt because of the family's unpaid electricity bills. Marcos's undertaker said that his remains would nevertheless be preserved until 2002. *(AFP)*

007 defeated

Hanoi: Vietnamese authorities have refused to allow the next James Bond movie, starring Pierce Brosnan, to be filmed either on the spectacular beaches of Halong Bay or in Ho Chi Minh City. There were "many reasons", said a ministry official. *(AFP)*

Australians catching up

Sydney: Australian scientists claim they are not far behind their Scottish counterparts in cloning domestic livestock (Roger Maynard writes).

Dr Kevin Ward, head of genetic engineering at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, said: "Most of the technology is in place, just not the fine detail." Australian scientists are known to have been working on cloning for many years, but it is in genetic manipulation that they may make the greatest impact.

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To have — and to have not

A kind of apartheid exists between those who become parents and those who don't, and both sides feel genuinely hard done by, says **Rachel Morris**

HARRY GRUYAERT/MAGNUM



While the majority of women slide with varying degrees of consciousness into parenthood, the numbers of those choosing to remain childless are increasing

If ever there were two groups in our society divided by misunderstanding, it is those who want children and those who do not. Sometimes it can seem that there is a gulf in lifestyle and attitude between the two big enough to consume a fleet of baby buggies.

While the majority of women slide, with varying degrees of consciousness, into parenthood and others find it hard to conceive, there have — at least since contraceptives provided a choice — always been women who have chosen not to become mothers. Statisticians call these refuseniks the voluntarily childless.

A government forecast last year predicted that in 20 years one woman in five at the age of 45 will not have had children. This is partly because many women are postponing childbirth (and are thus hitting fertility problems), but also because some women are choosing not to have them at all. This forecast has been prompted by a report from the Family Policy Studies Centre, which will be published later this year. If the numbers of refuseniks are increasing — as statisticians think is the case — then what was once seen as an eccentric choice may soon seem quite ordinary. And yet the gulf in lifestyles between the two groups is likely to remain as wide as ever.

> 'The childless often find children rude'

Because no one ever tells you when you make your choice — for or against children — that how you choose will largely determine where you live, how you live, and whom you know. A kind of apartheid exists between those who have children and those who do not — at least while the children are growing up — an apartheid, which seems so natural, that most of us don't even notice it.

From the parents' point of view, the process goes as follows: the upper-floor flat in town where you had always lived begins to feel cramped. You start to wince at traffic fumes and to crave green, open spaces.

The local schools, which previously had seemed adequate, now begin to worry you. Before you know where you are, you are casting envious eyes over property further out, or even in the country, looking all the time to live close to good schools.

And so you make the move but the process does not end there because once your children start school you find that your life is locked into the timetable of the school day. Harassed by the difficulties of working and bringing up the children, you accept as your friends the parents of your children's friends because there isn't any time to keep up with anybody else.

Next your children begin to want other children's company on holiday, and since you want help with the babysitting it seems easiest to go on holiday with other parents. A few years down the line and you find that you live, socialise and holiday largely with other families, and that you only meet childless people at work.

The childless are not so locked into the system — freedom being one of the reasons they give for staying that way — but even they respond to the ghettoisation process. A current property trend in London is to convert office buildings into loft spaces. The Manhattan Loft Corporation has three central London sites, aimed at professional couples and single people, and with no more than a handful of children living in them.

Given how separately the groups live, it is not surprising that misunderstandings proliferate. A trawl of my friends with children produced a litany of complaints, all circling round the lack of understanding on the other side — that childless friends will not invite you out to lunch, but only to supper, although they know you cannot afford a baby sitter, or that they invite you out to dinner and then do not understand why you have to leave at 11.15 to relieve that baby sitter.

But then complaints of lack of sensitivity are rife on the other side as well. Christine is childless and runs her own hairdressing salon. Into the salon one day came a friend and her child. The little boy did not want a haircut and threw a temper tantrum; the upshot was that he would only have his hair cut if he could sit on a Hoover while it was up and running. Since Christine was busy she opened her mouth to say "no" but before she could, the friend asked "So where's the Hoover?" because she had long ago got used to accommodating her child. The childless often genuinely find children rude. They are not accustomed to being interrupted and shouted down, and judging a two-year-old by adult standards, they find him offensive.

But those with children, having learnt to speak above a rising babble of shrieks and adroitly to pick up sentences abandoned in the middle, find the childless egocentric and inflexible. Mind you, put the accusation of selfishness to the childless (as I did to a spokesman for the British Organisation of Non-Parents [Bon] and he/she will sigh wearily — because they're always being accused of selfishness — and counter by suggesting that the other side is jealous.

Those who have children are often curious about the other side. It is tempting to believe that those who do not want children must all have had unhappy childhoods, and yet, while some have (to judge from the Bon newsletter) others clearly have not. In fact the Bon newsletter makes interesting reading because it shows how many misapprehensions are harboured by the other side as well.

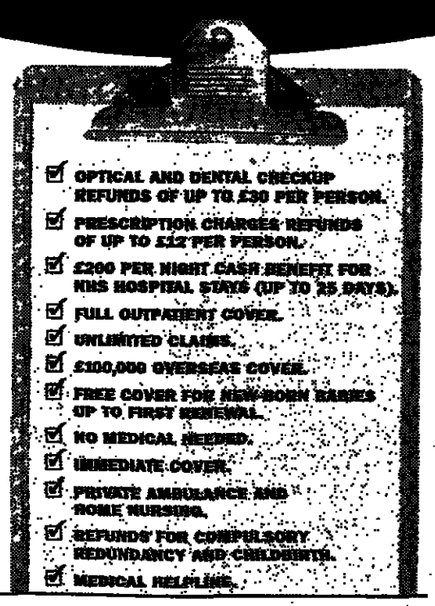
It bewails unplanned pregnancies as being unwanted (although any woman who wants a baby will tell you that there are many degrees of accident, none of which necessarily adds up to an unwanted pregnancy) and a notion prevails throughout that people have babies for reasons of convention and conformity, whereas in fact for those who feel it, the impulse to have children is as instinctive as the impulse to have sex. And this impulse must be the root cause of all these misunderstandings because either you have it or you don't, and although each side can rationalise their choice they cannot quite explain it nor understand the other. Which brings us back to the report that the Family Policy Studies Centre on the refuseniks and the factors that are their choice.

It is not hard, even — or perhaps especially — for those with children, to see what these factors might be: rigid working hours, expensive, inadequate childcare, the glass ceiling — even to enumerate the problems makes one feel weary — and yet the basic reason against children is likely to remain opaque, unless of course you are a refusenik, in which case you will understand it exactly. Living in a ghetto — whether with or without children — is dispiriting, but there is a gleam of comfort and that is that as the children grow up the ghetto walls may come down.

Consider again my childless friend Christine. Her closest friend Jane is the mother of two children. But Jane's children are grown up and these days Jane and Christine go out partying and holidaying together, and the fact that one has children and the other does not, no longer looms large between them.

● Ella and the Mothers *by Rachel Morris is published by Scepter on April 17. £16.99.*

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Canadian writing is coming into its own, says **Erica Wagner**

Heeding the voices from the attic

In recent weeks a slew of first novels has been published, each arriving with advance praise and each receiving, by and large, a very generous reception. *The Cure for Death by Lightning* by Gail Anderson-Dargatz (Virago, £9.99), *Icefields*, by Thomas Wharton (Cape, £9.99), *Fugitive Pieces* by Anne Michaels (Bloomsbury, £14.99) and *Fall on Your Knees* by Ann-Marie MacDonald (Cape, £12.99). Steven Heighton's first collection of short stories, *Flight Paths of the Emperor* (Granta, £8.99), could also be added to this list of original new writers, all of whom have one thing in common: they are Canadian.

No big deal? Not quite. Writing in February's issue of *Prospect* magazine, Canada's pre-eminent author Margaret Atwood recalled her own beginnings: "The one good thing to be said about announcing yourself as a writer in the colonial Canadian 1950s is that nobody told me I could not do it because I was a girl. They simply found the entire proposition ridiculous. Writers were dead and English, or else extremely elderly and American; they were not 16 years old and Canadian."



Margaret Atwood

But now, and certainly in part due to Atwood, to be a young Canadian author is no disadvantage at all. "Canadian writing has come an awful long way in my experience," says Dan Franklin, publishing director at Cape, "and there does seem to be this sudden flowering. One doesn't want to sound like Dr Johnson talking about women preaching, but it is remarkable. We have sold 12,000 copies of *Fall On Your Knees*, which is amazing for a first novel."

Carol Shields, whose novel *The Stone Diaries* won the Pulitzer Prize and was shortlisted for the Booker Prize in 1993, agrees that there is something in the air. This year she was a judge of Canada's prestigious Giller Prize for fiction. Margaret Atwood's *Alias Grace* (Bloomsbury, £16.99) took the prize but Anderson-Dargatz, Michaels and MacDonald were all on the shortlist of five — an extraordinary proportion of first novels. "Everyone thinks this is something of a phenomenon," she says.

Ann-Marie MacDonald's novel is a courageous, adventuresome book, a family tale of four generations that has its beginnings in the remoteness of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. Like her compatriots Wharton and Anderson-Dargatz, MacDonald embraces what to European eyes could seem a harsh and empty landscape. "It is a place where authentic things have happened," she says. "It's very much an inner landscape, of ghosts and memories and stories."

Wharton, whose mysterious, captivating *Icefields* is set at the turn of the century on the glaciers near Jasper, a remote settlement in the Canadian Rockies, found that he wished to "mimic something about the landscape in the language I was using — a glacier looks like a wasteland but underneath it is a magical place, there is so much hidden there."

Dr Lynette Hunter, who teaches Canadian literature at Leeds University, believes that this upsurge of talent is due in large part to government support of arts programmes across Canada.

But what makes these writers so exciting? What distinguishes their work from British or American novels? Although each is very different from the others, all share an ability to combine a strong narrative drive with a willingness to experiment with language — but "not so radically as to alienate readers," Hunter notes.

Shields, who grew up in the United States but has spent the last 40 years in Canada, feels that at last Canada is building a literary history. "In Canada we didn't have a Mark Twain, or a *David Copperfield*, which is the kind of thing that binds you together. But at the same time that lack of history allows you a different perspective, an ability to take a non-cynical position and creates a willingness to take risks." Robertson Davies once called Canadian writing "a voice from the attic". It looks like that voice is coming downstairs for good.

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The McAlpine memoirs: Day Two – the most explosive political disclosures since the publication of Alan Clark's *Diaries*

EXCLUSIVE: The memoirs that are devastating the Tory Party. Lord McAlpine on the 'greatest and most charismatic peacetime leader the Conservative Party has ever had'



'The Tories hated her hair, hated her voice; hated the whole idea of her'

One of the remarkable things about Margaret Thatcher is that, in all the time I have known her, I have never heard her say a word to the personal detriment of even her most virulent enemies

Confessions of THATCHER'S BAGMAN

When I first came to Central Office, I had never been to a party conference and that first conference of Margaret Thatcher's period of leadership was not an easy introduction to these ritual gatherings. Edward Heath attended the conference, causing a considerable amount of tension, all of which was part of his general plan. He, like Jeffrey Sterling, believed that she would not last until Christmas.

It was thought by various advisers that Margaret Thatcher should go to Heath's suite for a drink for a semi-public reconciliation, a meeting that Willie Whitelaw was to arrange. Margaret Thatcher was all dressed up and waiting to go, but the call from Whitelaw never came. She waited and waited. Eventually Gordon Reece rang Heath's suite to speak to Whitelaw, who merely told him that the meeting was not on. Having sat waiting for a couple of hours, Margaret Thatcher was deeply upset. Tears filled her eyes, not at Heath's rejection of her attempts at peace, but at Whitelaw's casual attitude to the whole affair.

At that conference I can remember only too well the chairwoman of the Tory Ladies' Committee. She was in floods of tears because she had been asked to present Margaret Thatcher with a giant teddy on the last day of the conference, Margaret Thatcher's birthday. "I do not want to give anything to that woman," she said as the party's PR people tried to persuade her. Her reaction was common among Tory activists. Traditional Tories hated Margaret Thatcher's hair, hated her voice, hated her accent and, indeed, many of them hated the whole idea of her. She was, like so many of them, a woman. Along with the feminists, they disliked her because she had achieved the leadership of the Tory Party while asking for no concessions as a female. As she embraced radical ideas, she was the very opposite of the sort of leader they wanted. In time, the activists learnt to love her. The feminists justified their position by pretending to themselves that really Margaret Thatcher was a man.

I was by now fully engaged in the business of raising money for the Conservatives. I was also responsible for arranging industrial conferences, where the various members of the Shadow Cabinet could address several hundred industrialists at a time. One of these conferences was in Glasgow. As Jim Prior and Margaret Thatcher waited before the conference began, Jim Prior asked her if she had a cold. He had, he said, heard her on the radio that morning and she sounded very sexy. Margaret Thatcher smiled innocently at him and replied: "I don't need a cold to be sexy, Jim." Jim Prior flushed a bright red. I always liked him. I did not often agree with him, but he is an honest and largely straightforward man, who actually believes in what he says. There is no trace of opportunism in him. The members of John Major's Cabinet do not compare very favourably when put alongside the likes of Jim Prior.

Working in Central Office during the 1979 election was a lot of fun — working anywhere is a lot of fun when you are winning. One Saturday, I was alone in my office during the campaigning when I heard an explosion. Gordon Reece entered, looking grim. Airey Neave had been murdered.

The day that Airey Neave was blown apart by Irish terrorists was a turning point in British politics. Airey and his wife, Diana, had been very kind to me and I was sad at his death. But at his funeral the following week there was a feeling of excitement: the moment that Airey had played such a part in bringing to fruition had almost come.

Callaghan put to one side his intention of having an autumn election and his party, like a herd of cows, entered the fenced cattle race that led to defeat. The election of 1979 was, as I discovered later, much like any other election, except we, at the time, were doubtful as to whether the electorate would accept a woman as a prime minister.

They did, and by midnight on polling day, the Conservatives were streaming ahead.

It was as if the world had changed. Socialism was gone, and with it a whole attitude to life that we had come progressively to accept since the end of the war. I sat in my office alone with a pot of tea, watching television. Just before eleven o'clock, Margaret Thatcher came into my office. "I'm just off to the Palace, Alistair." "Good luck." I replied. Nearly 12 years later, I shook her hand as she returned from Buckingham Palace to my home in Great College Street, having resigned. I was, I suppose, the last person to see her before she set out to start her time as Prime Minister and the first person to greet her when she returned, having completed that time.

Thorneycroft and I were both invited to Chequers for lunch on Sunday along with the Cabinet. The lunch went well and afterwards we sat and talked in the rose garden. The new Prime Minister walked with a member of the Cabinet among the trees. The rest of us watched from the terrace, excited as schoolboys who have just arrived at senior school. When the Prime Minister had finished with a particular secretary of state, he was returned to the group and another taken in his place.

Margaret Thatcher loved Chequers and, more perhaps than the house itself, she grew fond of the people who worked there. Over the years I visited Chequers often and I found that the place under her hand grew more and more like a home. When Margaret Thatcher left Downing Street to hand her resignation to the Queen, the press photographers caught tears in her eyes. Many believed that she cried for loss of office: I knew that she cried for the friends she left behind at Chequers and at 10 Downing Street.

Margaret Thatcher believed in argument and argued robustly with all who opposed her. She may well have labelled her opponents "wets", but she never called them "bastards" or "traitors". In fact, one of the most remarkable things about Margaret Thatcher is that in all the time I have known her, while she may disagree with an individual profoundly, I have never heard her say a word to the personal detriment of even her most virulent enemies.

On November 20, the first ballot was held. Margaret Thatcher had missed the necessary majority by two votes.

She returned to London the next day. She intended to fight the next round, much to the surprise of many of her supposed supporters. They took the view that she must be persuaded not to commit this folly, to go quietly. It was a nasty moment for John Major when Margaret Thatcher put his hand to the fire by asking him to second her on the second ballot. His hesitation speaks more than a thousand words.

At lunchtime that day Tim Bell, Gordon Reece and myself lunched in the private room at Mark's Club. David English and Conrad Black joined us. We discussed what could be done, and Tim Bell tried to telephone John Major. Norma Major answered the phone and told him that her husband's mouth was too sore to speak to anyone which, in retrospect, seems surprising because he managed to speak to Margaret Thatcher later in the day and Jeffrey Archer appears to have had conversations with him as well. His reluctance to speak to Bell, who explained to Norma Major that we were gathered together trying to help Margaret Thatcher, has always seemed strange. I cannot help wonder sometimes about his miraculous recovery the next day to fight his own campaign.

I was due to see Margaret Thatcher at seven o'clock that evening and then to take Denis out to dinner. The Prime Minister was late coming back to Downing Street. I sat with Charles Powell. At about 7.30 his telephone rang. It was a call from her office at the House of Commons. Would he please start drafting a resignation statement. Twenty minutes later the doorman at Downing Sreet warned us that the Prime Minister was returning. She came through the front door and asked me to follow her to the lift. We went straight up to the flat where Denis was waiting. Denis offered me a drink and Margaret told him of the day's events. "One by one they came in and with a couple of exceptions, they all told me the same thing. Of course, they will support me but they will not campaign on my behalf and that I cannot win. Except for Ken Clarke. He was straightforward and came to the point; he said I should go." "To hell with them, they don't deserve you," Denis remarked.

I do not think that the Conservative Parliamentary Party really knew what they had done. They were, I believe, caught up in a world of their own, a world from which they have not yet broken free. Only a considerable defeat will clear their heads and start them thinking again.

Lost in its own little world, the Conservative Parliamentary Party forced the resignation of its greatest peacetime leader, a woman who had won three general elections and two leadership contests, being undefeated in a third. Not only did the Conservative Parliamentary Party dispense with the service of one of its greatest and most charismatic leaders, but they did this while she was still Prime Minister and the nation was at war.

● *Extract from* Once A Jolly Bagman *by Alistair McAlpine (©Alistair McAlpine, 1997), published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson on March 27, at £20.*

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TIM BELL

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Bell had an immediate rapport with Margaret Thatcher. It was not that he could or did persuade her to do anything, so much as he could present what she did do in the best possible light.

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Reece was the *bête noire* of Baroness Young, my predecessor as deputy chairman. She regarded me as outrageous and Reece as quite beyond the pale. At a particular meeting she said: "Look at this bill. It's Gordon Reece's expenses. It is completely out of the question."

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Is Albania on Europe's conscience?

Enver Hoxha haunts Berisha's Tirana, reports **Richard Owen**

"Europe has let us down," said an Albanian journalist bitterly as he surveyed the burnt-out ruin of the offices of the main opposition newspaper, ransacked and set on fire on Sunday night. "What is Europe doing? The EU is fiddling while Albania burns."

In the beginning, the EU represented a dream of prosperity and democracy which seemed within grasp; now, after two months of rioting over fraudulent pyramid schemes, Albania faces economic and political collapse, with lawlessness in the streets. Instead of blaming themselves, Albanians who gullibly invested all they had in shady funds are turning against the European Union.

They are also turning against Sali Berisha, the Western-backed President whose re-election yesterday by an obedient parliament was a hollow victory, and may be followed by his overthrow. In the heady days after his ousting of the detested Communists in 1992, the gold stars of the EU were a ubiquitous symbol of hope, plastered on every wall and flown on every flagpole. Today, as Mr Berisha cracks down with a "shoot to kill" policy on an armed rising in the south of this mountainous Balkan country of 3.2 million people, the gold stars are looking tarnished.

> Europe has not helped to break the secret police culture

It is becoming conventional wisdom in Tirana that the West, and the EU in particular, should have "done more" to help Albania make the difficult transition from the desperate poverty of the communist years to pluralism and market forces. In vain do Western ambassadors in Tirana argue that they and the International Monetary Fund have repeatedly offered a cautious combination of technical expertise and investment. What was needed, critics say with hindsight, was an emergency aid programme to establish an infrastructure: decent roads rather than the rush to mobile phones and illusory quick riches.

Italian diplomats point out that Italy has at least tried to guide Albania, a former Italian colony, into the 20th century. As the Italian Deputy Foreign Minister, Piero Fassino, told me: "Many Albanian enterprises are backed by Italian money. But we have also quietly been trying to teach government and opposition to respect each other's legitimacy by getting them together for round-table debates."

This is the heart of the matter: all the former communist countries of south-eastern Europe, including Serbia and Bulgaria, have found the transition to democracy more problematic than the nations of Central Europe, where pre-communist democratic traditions linger. The EU, Albanians say bitterly, is prepared to spare time from its preoccupation with the single currency to welcome Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic into the Western fold, but the peasants of the Balkans are left outside the door.

In Albania, wartime Fascist occupation was followed by one of the most paranoid and oppressive of all Communist regimes, under the dictator Enver Hoxha. His statue on Skanderbeg Square has given way to a funfair, of all things, but his political and psychological legacy is not so easily dismantled.

Mr Berisha dismisses comparisons between himself and Hoxha as "odious and misplaced". The Albanian press has been — until now — remarkably free. Once-cowed Albanians speak or shout their minds, and although the ruling Democratic Party was guilty of some fraud in last May's elections, it would have won anyway. But Mr Berisha's reaction to the mounting mayhem marks a reversion to Balkan authoritarianism. The press is finally muzzled, there are curfews and a shoot-to-kill policy against armed rebels.

It is probably all too late: power belongs to the streets, and to the Mafia gangsters trading in drugs, prostitutes and illegal immigrants. As in other East European states, the gangsters have emerged as the real post-communist power-brokers and economic overlords. Mr Berisha says the state cannot reimburse savers, since Albania has a budget deficit of $260 million, and anyhow the rackets were private ones. But this is disingenuous: the tycoons who run pyramid schemes such as Vefa — a giant business empire with assets from bitumen mines to helicopters — have built most of Albania's new hotels, supermarkets and petrol stations with government approval.

The resort to force has one possibly fatal weakness: many policemen and soldiers have lost money in the schemes, which partly explains why looters in the south have often encountered little resistance. The only force on which Mr Berisha can rely is the secret police, the SHIK, the backbone of the previous regime, which has adapted all too easily from Hoxha's communism to Mr Berisha's right-wing rule, beating up intellectuals who once dared to criticise Hoxha and who now criticise Berisha.

If Mr Berisha is brought down, there are honourable and liberal-minded people in the Forum for Democracy who might put Albania back on track. But the Forum was brought together only by the crisis, and if it came to power it would swiftly be revealed as a front for the Socialists, some of whom remain militant communists.

"Europe" has not only failed to mend the roads, but has failed to help Albania break a deep-rooted secret-police culture and replace it with the foundations of democracy. The likelihood is that southern Europe will pay the price as tens of thousands of desperate Albanians pour into Italy and Greece. Yesterday's airlift by the Italian navy of foreign nationals stranded in an Albanian port may prove just a foretaste of the exodus to come.



The gender agenda

Women's diversity defies the think-tanks' categories — so why do they bother?

Libby Purves

"I'll tell you what's the matter with Britain today," said Kitty, the formidable matron from Cheadle who used to address the nation during the Victoria Wood show. "People aren't pegging enough out!" She had, she would explain, spotted this social change from the train window, and the empty clotheslines confirmed her view of social decadence, as did a cheeky TV repairman. "He waggled my aerial and wolfed my Gipsy Creams, but that's the comprehensive system for you."

I liked Kitty, played with fierce conviction by Patricia Routledge. I think on balance that she and the gallery of other caricatures assembled by Victoria Wood, French and Saunders, Jane Horrocks and Doon MacKichan have far more to say about women than any think-tank. Men's vaudeville swipes at us tend to be either timid or crass; the best woman comedians by contrast are politically incorrect, abrasive and unsupportive. Here be dragons: grotesque versions of our sex, from Susie Blake's prissy conservative announcerine in her pussycat bows to Jo Brand effing and blinding or Patsy and Edina falling drunk from taxis in *Absolutely Fabulous*. From the manically hip DJ played by Doon McKichan ("Yay! More respeck!") to smug rural matrons, ruthless tycoons, gormless teenage style-victims and obsessive mothers. Women are good at sending themselves up.

It was ever thus (think of Jane Austen). In comedy, in drama, in novels we are given diverse images of womanhood: not only types but individuals stepping out of type. We are entertained and comforted, for these fictions confirm our instinct that there is no such thing as a typical woman, because we are as various as men, as noble and as nasty. Nobody says "Men, they're all the same — Norman Tebbit, Eddie Izzard, Cardinal Hume, typical."

This is not to say that sex makes no difference. We have more or less outgrown the once-hip pretence that men and women are identical apart from a bit of plumbing. Gender — as any tormented transsexual could tell you — will always lie at the heart of personality, but around that heart there is infinite scope for variety. Wombs and motherhood, virility and manhood, hormones and instincts and ancient social expectations shape the two sexes differently; but within that broad difference there are a thousand variants. There is no typical woman — just Lady Thatcher and Linda McCartney, Mother Teresa and Iris Murdoch and Ann Widdecombe and a host of others who are even more diversely quirky because they have not been squeezed into media boxes. These days we can admit that "biology is destiny" because we also admit that each sex has a bewildering variety of possible destinies. What we build on our biology is up to us. That is the point of being human.

There, apart from the nuts and bolts of employment legislation and family law, you would think that we could leave it. It is high time that first-world feminism saw the absurdity of creating a sterile, inward-looking victim culture for half the population. The women's cause could vanish, like yeast, into more general efforts to build a fair, confident, free and orderly society for all. But no such luck. This Saturday is International Women's Day: ideally an occasion for the free women of the West to turn their eyes to those parts of the world which still enslave women. As usual, however, the day will find us absorbed utterly in the contemplation of our own navels. On Friday there is a portentous conference set up by Demos, the independent think-tank, to discuss its report *Tomorrow's Women*.

"Key women" will be rolled out: Liz Forgan, Lynne Franks, Anita Roddick, Gail Rebuck. They will talk about such riveting poll findings as "51 per cent of women define themselves by being a parent" as against "27 per cent by their principles and values" and "15 per cent by their intelligence or their gender" (we are not told how many pushed away the clipboard with a shudder rather than "define themselves" at all). Picking over current trends, Demos offers predictions of a "back to basics backlash" in 2010, when numerous women will storm back into the kitchen and slam the door; we shall hear discussion about the risk of men becoming the oppressed sex and suffering a "crisis of masculinity" as teenage girls embrace macho ambition and take up boxing and football; there will be a warning of a "growing gap" between single women and those in relationships, and between mothers and the childless. Whether they will actually start scratching and pulling one another's hair out we are not told.

Apart from this vague, doomy futurology, there are the five key types which Demos sees emerging (their answer, I suppose, to the Spice Girls' artfully marketed line-up of "Posh Spice, Ginger Spice, Baby Spice, Sporty Spice, Scary Spice"). Demos offers the less tuneful combo of Networking Naomi, New Age Angela, Mannish Mel, Back to Basics Barbara and Frustrated Fran.

Who are these chimeras? Naomi is an "infoholic" career girl, but runs on intuition and is "actively feminising the workplace". Angela goes for spiritual values and is rich enough to indulge them. Mel is what they call a He-Woman, as tough and mean as any bloke; her emergence is menacingly endorsed by the statistic that in the past two years "the proportion of women doing knitting or dressmaking has fallen by 10 per cent while the proportion doing DIY has risen by 6 per cent". (What are the loose 4 per cent doing: taking chainsaws to their knitting in confusion?)

Meanwhile Back-to-Basics Barbara is piously devoted to the home and family, and Frustrated Fran is fed up because feminism told her she would rule the world and somehow, unaccountably, she is still in a duff job and "feels angry much of the time". Poor old Fran: perhaps she should have asked a passing man what it feels like out there in the working world. He could have warned her about this business of feeling angry, insecure and undervalued most of the time. It's called employment.

Oh dear: I am becoming unsisterly. Call me Disaffected Dora. I accept that think-tankers have a living to earn, and as reports go this one is harmless enough. In fact, very little of it has any chewable meaning at all. The main thrust is that the increasing diversity of women "will make it harder than ever for businesses and politics to treat women as a homogenous group", which unfortunately comes under the heading of Glimpses of the Obvious. It is a hairy old truism that women are various: from Tesco to the Tory party, people with something to sell have spent the past 15 years commissioning market research to divide us into catchy subgroups and target us. Even so, they know really that not everyone comes anywhere near fitting into just one of their categories. You would not last long these days in marketing if you started talking generally about "women", and that has been so for years.

I remember being present when one major advertising agency unveiled its momentous discovery that middle-aged women don't necessarily see themselves as gentle, cosy or domestic, but cherish a secret "wild" side. Never mind that novelists and poets had been spotting that for centuries and that women themselves had been laughing with their comediennes at the joke of how little each of us fits the nearest stereotype. Never mind that we always knew what oceans of private differentness, wildness and oddity lay beneath our business suits, housecoats, Husky jackets or shop overalls. The admen unveiled their findings with all the dramatic impressiveness of archaeologists opening Tutankhamun's tomb; and thus Demos this week thinks to amaze us.

I suppose it is harmless enough. Yet meanwhile, children go to bed unhappy because they can't get into the local school because of the mess of "parental choice"; 16-year-olds of both sexes face humiliating unemployment; prison officers say that Broadmoor is running out of control, and intelligent citizens are reduced to digging themselves underground because they despair of democracy in road planning. There are enough problems of class, wealth, crime and education without faffing around inventing gender issues. If a building is on fire, you ring the fire brigade, not the Victorian Society. Grumpy Gertrude here can't help feeling that the very diversity amongst women that Demos "discovered" is the reason why, frankly, they needn't have bothered.

Beau Geste Major

Too many Tories accept defeat, says **Woodrow Wyatt**

Fed up with our ghastly winter, my wife, my daughter and I spent last week in Marrakesh, Morocco. The sun shone and the temperature reached 86F in the shade, perfect for sunbathing by the magnificent pool of the Hotel Mamounia. It is owned by King Hassan II, who runs an astonishingly liberal regime under which all religions are tolerated but racism is not.

Unlike one of his predecessors, Sultan Mulai Abdul Aziz, the present King does not appear to be eccentric or autocratic. Abdul Aziz was keen on cricket, generally four a side. At the end of the match the Sultan put the names against the scores. His Majesty was always the top scorer; the player he liked best for the moment had the second-best score, the lowest went to whoever was out of favour. The Sultan's side always won.

The patron saint of Marrakesh is *Sir Winston Churchill*. His painting holidays, spent at the Mamounia Hotel after he lost the 1945 election, put Marrakesh — and by extension the rest of Morocco — into the top league for world tourism.

Although we were warned about beggars, they never troubled us. The crowds in the great marketplace seemed well nourished. Moroccan women have a high degree of pulchritude. Romantic Marrakesh is in the midst of P.C. Wren's *Beau Geste* country. There are spectacular views of the Atlas mountains. Our well organised and comfortable hotel was a great place for reflection. *Sky News* in the bedroom kept me posted about events in Britain, including the Wirral South by-election result. So has my forecast that John Major will win the general election been shown to be haywire?

Yesterday *The Sun* printed a MORI opinion poll of 795 Wirral voters, conducted immediately after last Thursday's by-election. Not surprisingly, they said they wouldn't change their votes at the general election. But that does not mean that many will not by May 1. Also there is a gap of 8.6 per cent between the 81.6 per cent who voted in April 1992 and the 73 per cent who voted in the by-election. The missing voters, plus those who eventually change their minds, would make it quite possible for the Conservatives to repeat much the same general election results as in 1992.

Yet the front page of *The Sun* carried the following message: "The tide has turned . . . and the Tories will soon be stranded like a beached whale." How odd. Last Saturday's *Sun* staged one of its "You the Jury" telephone polls, by which it sets much store. It asked, "Which party will you vote for at the general election?" Tucked away in a corner at the bottom of a page, the answer was printed yesterday. Sixty per cent said they would vote Tory, which hardly suggests the landslide Labour victory that the paper predicts.

Not that the Conservatives should kid themselves. They are miles behind. The solidly healthy economy induces the feeling that it is safe to vote Labour. If the economy were in a mess, the Conservatives would be more trusted than Tony Blair and Gordon Brown to get us out of it. If interest in Europe were high there would be more awareness of the dangers of Labour's pro-Brussels stance. But even though some 80 per cent of the people are anti-Brussels, most think it so remote a place that nothing fearful emanating from it will ever affect us. Anyhow, superficially there seems to many people to be little difference between Conservative and Labour attitudes to the European Union. That goes for everything else too. Labour's presentation of itself as a lookalike Tory party enhances the powerful "give the other side a chance" factor.

It was the "Butskell" consensus that kept the Tories in power from 1951 to 1964. Now the consensus favours Labour. To win, the Conservatives must stop their self-indulgent rows over how many angels can dance on the point of a pin in interpreting Cabinet policy towards Europe, and start addressing the enemy. They must calculate how many jobs will be lost when Labour fulfills its pledge to join the EU's social chapter, and must blazon the figure abroad.

They must estimate realistically the horrific effect of a certain run on the pound if Labour wins. They must relentlessly expose the damage to millions of small investors and pension funds that would be wrought by Labour's proposed windfall tax. They must attack, attack, attack, instead of responding — somewhat — feebly to Labour's assaults on them.

Too many Conservatives accept defeat, and some even welcome it for the refreshment it would supposedly give the party in opposition. Others are shamelessly jockeying for leadership positions after an election defeat. Why should the public vote for a party which, apart from its leader, has no real heart for winning? Like Churchill honoured at Marrakesh, John Major fights best when all looks lost. If top Tories are not seen to back him wholeheartedly, they will betray millions of Tory loyalists.

American aid

SOME of the proceeds from the dress sale of Diana, Princess of Wales, in New York, will be distributed to American rather than British charities. The Princess has chosen to give half of any money raised, which should exceed the £4 million estimate, to an organisation called the Aids Crisis Trust, with which she has no official ties, but which has glamorous American connections.

Marguerite Littman, the American socialite based in London, said to be one of the Princess's mother figures and founder of the trust, says in her deep southern drawl: "We have lots of friends of Aids Crisis Trust in America, like Mrs Henry Kissinger and Bill Blass the designer, so a lot of the money from the sale will go there."

Also prominent within the Aids Crisis Trust is Lily Mahtani, a wealthy Indian who has energetically cultivated her royal connections, despite a hiccough last year when she sued the Duchess of York for repayment of an alleged £100,000 loan.

All of which leaves the National Aids Trust, one of only four organisations the Princess remained patron of when she reduced her public work last year. While full of praise for the Princess's efforts on behalf of Aids causes, an optimistic spokesman for the National Aids Trust says "I am sure we will be advising on where the Aids money goes". Mrs Littman begs to differ. "The Aids Crisis Trust alone will be distributing the money."



Marguerite Littman and fellow Aids fundraiser Liz Taylor

● *Extra-curricular activities should be encouraged at Westminster, but Lord Rennell may be overdoing it. Yesterday, I reported how at 61 he stormed French lines in a 55-18 victory for the Lords and Commons Rugby XV. Today I hear how on Sunday night Rennell turned out for the Lords chess team, and the week before that played bridge for the Lords against the Commons. It takes a man of Rennell's constitution to find time for legislating.*

Fab Pav

EXTRA PASTA is on the shopping list for the Sandy Lane Hotel in Barbados as Luciano Pavarotti packs his trunks for a three-week stay. To justify his holiday, Fat Lucy will be singing, for one night only, as party of the Holders opera season on the island.

Naturally enough, guests will be warming up for the concert with a five-course, £1,300-a-head dinner at the Sandy Lane, haunt of Michael Winner and assorted blonde handbags. Pavarotti will have to be on lung-bursting form to improve on his warm-up act, a Trinidadian steel band called the Desperadoes.

Squeezed

SHAME on the Mairie of Menton in southern France, where the annual Fête du Citron has just come to a close. In previous years, the festival celebrated the bountiful harvest of 100,000 orange and lemon trees, but today things are different. Still in need of the tourists brought in by the festival, and yet without the fruit to justify it, town officials went shopping. "We add to buy our citrons from Spain zis year," said a voice from the town hall. "We no longer ave enough of our own fruit. Eet is very sad."

Sassy

GOVERNMENT attempts to prevent former SAS soldiers from writing books by threatening banishment from regimental dinners appear to be floundering. The pulp publishers Orion have just bought three novels by the impressive-sounding former SAS man Johnny "Two Combs" Howard.

When not fiddling with his hair, "Two Combs" helped out on *SAS: The Soldier's Story*, published by Macmillan. The first book in this new deal, *Boat Troop*, is set in the Falklands and based on real events. It will be published in November — after the MoD's lawyers have had a good look at it.

Sockless

SCUFFLING around the London to Reading railway the other day was David Rendel, the Liberal Democrat MP for Newbury, in search of the contents of his briefcase. Last week as he travelled to London from his constituency, two young thieves crept into his first-class carriage and stole his bag. When they discovered it contained nothing but official papers and three pairs of the MP's socks, they abandoned their pickings on the track outside Reading.

Two days later Rendel, in an old pair of jeans and thick gardening jacket clambered through trackside brambles and gathered up what remained of his case. "I would love to see their faces when they found my socks," says Rendel.



"Here comes some more boiling water"

P·H·S

YOUTH ON TRIAL

Straw's concerns are proper, his answers on the right track

Both for the harassed tenants of council estates and the residents of more spacious suburbs relief cannot come too quickly from the inconvenience, pain and distress caused by juvenile criminals. The proposals unveiled yesterday by Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, attempt to speak to the concerns of all too many families whose lives have been disrupted by the persistent anti-social behaviour of teenage offenders. Michael Howard can hardly be accused of legislative indolence or a reticence in making it easier for courts to convict; but the Conservative record on juvenile crime has, until recently, been no source of pride. Mr Straw's proposals may have been motivated by a desire to occupy what was a poorly defended piece of traditional Tory terrain but he deserves credit nevertheless for devoting attention to the scale, causes and treatment of juvenile offending.

In 1994 two out of every five known offenders were under 21 and a quarter were under 18. Broadly, some seven million offences a year are committed by individuals who are under 18. They are dealt with separately from adults in juvenile courts and, even more than other parts of the criminal justice system, those courts have been failing society. In November of last year the Audit Commission pointed out that, "less is done now than a decade ago to address offending by young people".

Labour has sought to exploit the accumulated problems of juvenile justice by making speedier sentences in youth courts one of their "five early pledges". The package unveiled yesterday, not least the reform of the age of criminal responsibility, is designed to underline Labour's efforts.

Labour wants not only to speed justice, but also tailor it further to the requirements of juvenile criminals by borrowing elements from the Scottish Children's Panel system. Mr Straw wants professional magistrates to determine guilt and lay magistrates to decide on the sentence. He hopes by moving to a more "inquisitorial" system to confront young offenders and their parents more directly with the consequences of their actions. Mr Straw wants to prevent juvenile criminals from hiding behind their lawyers' gowns in youth courts whose processes inappropriately imitate their adult counterparts. It would be altogether welcome if young offenders had their guilt established quickly with their parents' responsibilities spelt out. Labour must however ensure that the gap between establishing guilt and facing sentence does not create new delays and potential for confusion.

Mr Straw proposes to ensure that he secures accelerated justice by denying legal aid to those who plead guilty unless they are likely to face a custodial sentence. Labour's proposal could cost around £5 million a year. Abolition of legal aid for all juveniles who plead guilty, whatever the likely sentence, would raise £4.3 million. The shortfall is likely to be larger and Mr Straw would, if in office, have to raid other parts of his budget. The sums are not, however, massive, and the beneficial effect of early justice for juveniles embarking on a criminal career would be worth the investment.

Ultimately, as Mr Straw is the first to admit, it is parents, not politicians who can do most to prevent youth crime. They can however be helped by a government committed to an activist posture. The rhetoric of both main parties is designed to offer that support. Although there are still question marks over Labour's policies, they signal a welcome seriousness of intent.

TUNG-TIED

Hong Kong will be a Chinese backwater if the press is curbed

Tung Chee-hwa, the designated Chief Executive of Hong Kong after July 1, is a Chinese patriot cut in the 19th-century mould who is quite frank about his distrust of democracy. Because he shares some of the instinctive authoritarianism of China's leadership while believing stoutly in Hong Kong's capitalist system, many influential Hong Kong businessmen argue that this will equip him well to deal with Beijing after July 1. The test will be whether in doing so, he is robust in defence of Hong Kong's open and pluralist system. His stated conviction that indiyidual rights should be subordinated to "the good of the community" suggests a genuine lack of understanding that political freedoms underpin Hong Kong's rule of law. His actions since he was appointed last December have increased scepticism.

In January, he sided firmly with Chinese moves to curtail important political freedoms in Hong Kong after July 1, including rights to form associations and political parties and to demonstrate. When his words created an uproar in Washington, he turned on Hong Kong's democrats, accusing them of creating trouble by "bad-mouthing" Hong Kong abroad. Malcolm Rifkind, in reply, said that it was entirely legitimate for anyone to point out that China's plans would be bad for confidence as well as for human rights in Hong Kong. Now, in his first television interview since December, Mr Tung has told the press that after July 1, it must avoid "derogatory or personal remarks against other people". This is a barely coded version of China's position that attacks on the Beijing leadership will not be permitted.

On previous occasions, Mr Tung has said that he supports freedom of expression and a free press; but he seems to have a poor grasp of what this means. As the editor of *Ta Kung Pao*, the leading pro-Peking newspaper in Hong Kong, comments, "it is impossible for a newspaper to criticise a policy without criticising the man who made it". If Mr Tung believes that curbs on press freedom are a small price to pay for keeping Beijing happy, that can only mean that he regards this freedom as negotiable. For Hong Kong, whose international competitiveness depends crucially on an open intellectual culture underpinned by the free flow of information, any such trade-off would be a material as well as a political disaster.

Services now account for 80 per cent of Hong Kong's GDP. It therefore relies critically on academic freedom in its universities and on the swift, accurate and uncensored flow of information of all kinds. In addition, the most immediate threat to Hong Kong, acknowledged by China as well as its own apprehensive citizens, is contamination by Chinese corruption. The respect for the rule of law, entrenched in Hong Kong's culture under British rule, is some defence; but after the handover, businessmen might well fear to take opponents with powerful Chinese connections to court. The best defence against that is a press free to investigate and to report.

Many of Mr Tung's friends and advisers tell him these things. Hong Kong has a young population, and they worry that his stress on authority and conformity will create a gulf between his post-July administration and Hong Kong's highly mobile pool of graduate talent. Hong Kong's popular and respected Chief Executive, Anson Chan, whose readiness to continue in office will be vital to post-handover confidence, has urged Hong Kong's press to continue "to write the editorials and stories that deserve to be written, responsibly, objectively but without fear or favour". Mr Tung may not understand why she is right; but he should follow her lead. He cares deeply about Hong Kong's stability; but integral to that stability are the freedoms he has so far been reluctant to defend.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, CHAIRMAN

How companies can hire themselves a diplomat

The invoice will doubtless arrive embossed with an elegant Foreign Office crest: "To His Excellency's services on behalf of Acme Engineering Ltd: one hour's exclusive lobbying of the President, together with an exposition of the Company catalogue, £3,000." The bill, of course, might be a little less if Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador was only granted 20 minutes with Industry Minister. If the Third Secretary (Bicycles Division) happened to bump into the Tanzanian Government car fleet maintenance mechanic and dropped a hint that Britain did a nice line in sparking plugs, he might legitimately consider his remarks worth at least a fiver.

The new world of invoiced PR diplomacy may soon be upon us if radicals in the Cabinet Office have their way. Our Man in the pinstripe suit has better things to do now than pass the canapés. Selling for Britain is the modern motto, and the harder the sell, the quicker the ambitious diplomat will ascend the ladder. Now those hawks in the Treasury are asking why HMG should foot the bill: Acme grew to be a multinational conglomerate thanks to the endless cups of coffee ingested by British ambassadors in the Gulf while nodding sagely at the words of the tribal emirs. Let Acme pay.

There is a slight matter of credibility. Britain's reputation for peerless, patronising impartiality was built on the formula of flying the flag from the Rolls, supporting the Church in dusty tropics and supreme indifference to the gizmos being peddled in the local markets by scruffy British salesmen. A trade fair from time to time was welcome, especially if a royal visit was in prospect, and an ambassador has been known to pose for the cameras enjoying a piece of Stilton or tot of whisky. But turning over the Embassy drawing room to British fashion designers, or summoning local industry chiefs to breakfast looked rather too partisan.

The old days of nonchalance have passed away. Diplomacy is more and more about trade figures, and the Foreign Office's proudest boast is that for every pound it spent in trade promotion in the Far East last year, it earned £78 in exports. Mandarins may still enjoy the dispatches on post-Deng China from Sir Len Appleyard in Beijing; but the Ambassador's usefulness is better attested by the £1 billion BP deal that he helped to clinch. The Labour Party, indeed, has gone one better. Why not do away with the fuddy-duddy diplomats, and send out captains of industry to represent Britain?

The Prime Minister's Efficiency Unit, looking at diplomatic charges, already calculates that briefings, business packs and market advice bring in £1 million a year: small beer, when there are chandeliers in the embassy ballroom to repair, but it all helps. The top man's lobbying skills must be worth a bit more. The Americans, after all, have been at it for years: raising money is how you become an ambassador in the first place.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Shortage of hospital beds and the quality of healthcare

From the Director of the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts

Sir, William Rees-Mogg's belief that all that is wrong with Britain's healthcare is the shortage of hospital beds is touching ("Beds, not trolleys", February 27). And his hypothesis that the NHS would somehow be rescued from disaster by the tiny private sector like a knight in shining armour is pure fantasy.

Hospital beds are no longer used as a measure of activity. More and more patients are being treated as day cases because of new drug therapies and medical advances. This has allowed the NHS, according to government figures, to purchase 5.2 million in-patient treatments between April and September 1996, representing a 3.3 per cent increase over the same period in 1995 and an annual projected figure of 10.6 million. Quite an achievement compared with the 750,000 operations performed in the private sector each year.

Comparing the percentage of GDP spent on the public and private sectors in the UK and other countries is disingenuous. Other countries just do not have a comprehensive, publicly funded service, free at the point of delivery. Moreover, accounts of the unhappy state of public-sector healthcare in the US should be enough to prevent anyone in this country wanting to emulate that system.

Whatever the political colour of the next government, the best way forward is to provide development monies of 3 per cent above inflation for what is increasingly a cost-effective NHS.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP A. HUNT,
Director,
National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts,
Birmingham Research Park,
Vincent Drive, Birmingham 15.
February 28.

From the Registrar of the Royal College of Physicians

Sir, Lord Rees-Mogg is both right and wrong. He is wrong in that health insurance is no solution to the funding shortfall in the hospitals; lurking behind the figures he quotes are healthcare crises in the US and in some EU countries, and the inequalities of provision and access in the US are well known. But he is right in advocating support via a properly managed and regulated private finance initiative.

However, neither of his proposals will solve the problem. No matter how many more beds and operating theatres are found, there simply are not the doctors and nurses to staff them. And the plans for a primary care-led service by transferring resources, human and material, away from hospitals will only make matters worse.

Yours,
DAVID LONDON,
Registrar,
Royal College of Physicians,
11 St Andrews Place,
Regent's Park, NW1.
February 27.

From Mr Brian T. Collins

Sir, The over-long waiting lists for operations highlighted by Lord Rees-Mogg have been greatly aggravated by the occupancy for long periods of so many expensive hospital beds by the elderly — people who would be far better occupying much less expensive and usually much more pleasant beds provided by private-sector nursing homes.

Under the NHS and Community Care Act 1990, local authorities are financially responsible for paying for such beds in private nursing homes while NHS hospitals are not permitted to do so. Many, perhaps most, local authorities have insufficient funds to pay for all those who are in the community and should be in nursing homes, let alone those who are long-term in NHS hospitals.

It would make sound financial and medical sense for NHS funds to be diverted to local authorities specifically for paying for such NHS patients to be transferred to private nursing homes or for individual hospital trusts to be permitted to buy bed space directly themselves.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN COLLINS (Chairman),
Grosvenor Care plc,
22 Gloucester Road, Ealing, W5.
February 27.

From Mr Roger Munson

Sir, What has the provision of private hospital beds to do with government? If there is an unfulfilled demand, it is open to any entrepreneur to gather the necessary funds, build, staff and manage a hospital and thus fulfil that demand, earning himself a profit in the process. No government action or even policy is involved, save to have in place reasonable planning laws and possibly a quality-inspection regime.

While taxpayers may want (in some philosophical sense) more hospital beds, they do not seem to want them enough to pay for them. On this definition of "want" there is no unfulfilled demand, and the missing hospitals should therefore not be built.

Tax relief on medical insurance premiums would merely distort the balance of demand (as well as increasing the tax burden falling elsewhere). It would imply that, although those demanding the missing hospital beds are not willing to pay the full cost of what they demand, they would be willing to pay 60 per cent of the cost (if rich) or 76 per cent of the cost (if not). There are all sorts of desirable commodities I would buy if I could get them at 60 per cent of their true cost, with someone else paying the other 40 per cent.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER MUNSON,
41 Southwood Lane, Highgate, N6.
February 27.

From the Managing Director, UK Operations, BUPA

Sir, It was so refreshing to read William Rees-Mogg's account of how both main political parties fail to recognise the potential of the private sector to contribute to the nation's healthcare.

A useful first step in this direction for the Labour Party would be to assure half a million elderly subscribers to private medical insurance that it will not take away their tax relief.

Yours sincerely,
VAL GOODING,
Managing Director, UK,
BUPA,
15-19 Bloomsbury Way, WC1.
February 27.

'Borrowed time' at public libraries

From the Chief Executive of The Library Association

Sir, Melvyn Bragg ("Don't keep our libraries on borrowed time", Arts, February 24) is surely right to highlight the contrast between the fine words in the recent Heritage Department policy review, *Reading the Future*, and the state of the public libraries in many parts of the country. It is certainly reassuring that the Government has placed on record its assertion that they will have a vital role in the information society.

However, to achieve that by the turn of the century, there needs to be significant public investment in information technology, a relaxation of the National Lottery rules on the eligibility of public libraries and, above all, a resolution of the conflict between central and local government on expenditure for locally delivered public services.

Anyone concerned about reductions in services at their local public library is likely to be told by the council that it does not wish to reduce opening hours, close branches or cut the money spent on books, but that the grant from the Government leaves it no option. If they approach the Government, they are likely to be told that each council, in the Government's view, gets a grant sufficient to provide its full range of services to a good standard.

It seems that a thorough review of local government finances is required for a solution to be found. Alternatively, councils should be left to spend on services to the level required by the local electorate.

Yours faithfully,
ROSS SHIMMON,
Chief Executive,
The Library Association,
7 Ridgmount Street, WC1.
February 25.

From Mr Richard Proctor and Dr Bob Usherwood

Sir, Recently we had the opportunity to investigate the impact of the almost total closure of the public library service on the local community, when industrial action closed Sheffield libraries and information services for eight weeks.

Our research showed that most people were unable to find a replacement for the service (more than eight out of ten could not afford to buy the books they needed). Respondents emphasised the service's educational value (significantly highest in communities where the fewest had undergone higher education), and its social role (over 50 per cent of users visited their local library weekly or more often).

All political parties are placing great emphasis on education and literacy, but none seems to have made the link between these and an adequately financed public library service, or recognised the important part that public librarians play in promoting the values of a democratic and civilised society. They help to democratise knowledge.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD PROCTOR
BOB USHERWOOD,
Department of Information Studies,
University of Sheffield,
Western Bank, S10 2TN.
February 24.

Asians in the Lords

From Mr Ala'Uddin Ali

Sir, Dominic Kennedy's article ("Peers, politics and the Asian vote", February 27) made interesting reading, but in my view it had little to do with the reality of Asian life in the UK. I have never heard of Raj Bagri and have only read laudatory comments in both the mainstream and ethnic minority press of Swraj Paul. Both these characters are presumably entirely honourable, but quite frankly who cares?

As a Bengali who has lived in the UK for the last 40 years, I can only say that their elevation to the peerage is a curious way to try and influence a democratic process like an election based on universal suffrage. As an ordinary Asian, running my own business, my voting intentions are none of anybody else's business.

Yours for democracy,
ALA'UDDIN ALI,
65 Malyons Road, SE13.
February 27.

Honourable mix-up

From the Reverend David Weekes

Sir, Bad form over styles of address is increasingly common. Reference to "the Reverend Brown" has long been too prevalent. Now we must despair at the comments from the College of Arms about Lord Lloyd-Webber's hyphen (report, February 27):

If he were styled Lord Lloyd Webber, he could be mistaken in theory for the son of a peer. Were there an Earl of Webber with a son whose Christian name was Lloyd, he would call himself Lord Lloyd Webber.

This fictional fantasy founders on the fact that it is only the younger sons of dukes and marquesses who bear the courtesy title of Lord before their first or Christian name. Younger sons of earls, viscounts and barons all bear the style of the Honourable.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WEEKES
(Warden), Lee Abbey
International Students' Club,
57-67 Lexham Gardens,
Kensington, W8.
February 27.

Seeing squares

From Mr T. Franks

Sir, Dr Stuttaford (Medical briefing, February 28) claims that after 13 single whiskies or, using his calculations, approximately 6½ pints of beer, the drinker is "staggering, seeing double and will find that it is hard to remember the details of the evening the next day".

Really? Between 5pm and 11pm each Saturday night for the last few years I have drunk roughly that amount of beer whilst playing chess and not only do I not stagger and see double, I recall positions and sequences of moves the next day with sufficient clarity to discuss them analytically with my opponents.

Yours faithfully,
T. FRANKS
16 Cambridge Road North, W4.
March 1.

Human cost of 'arms to Iraq' affair

From Mr R. W. Dunk

Sir, In July 1994 I and my company, Atlantic Commercial UK Ltd, won our appeal against our convictions in 1985 for alleged illegal export of arms to Iraq, because of information dredged up from FCO files by Sir Richard Scott when preparing his report into the Matrix-Churchill affair.

Sir Richard found that two officials in the FCO had contrived at the behest of officers of HM Customs to prevent our two defence witnesses, the military attachés of Jordan and Iraq, from coming to court by applying diplomatic pressure on their ambassadors. In their absence we had no option but to change our plea to guilty, and we were heavily fined and the arms — which were not shipped — were confiscated.

The actions of the FCO officials were described in the Scott report as "disgraceful" and "thoroughly reprehensible", and the actions of the customs officials as "deserving of greater censure". In judgment on our appeal the Lord Chief Justice, at that time Lord Taylor, said that their actions constituted an abuse of the justice process.

The results of the conviction, apart from fines, costs and confiscation were the virtual ruin of my company and the enforced dismissal of its staff. It ruined my life, a penalty far in excess of that intended, I am sure, by the court in 1985.

Whereas the Home Office have agreed to compensate me for my personal loss under Section 133 of the Criminal Justice Act of 1988, they maintain it does not provide for compensation for miscarriages of justice against "companies". The only redress is to sue the original prosecuting authority, HM Customs, but since I am now 77 and my company has been ruined, how can it afford to?

We have today lost the judicial review we sought in order to obtain clarification of Section 133 and the ex-gratia schemes. This is very disappointing and seems blatantly unfair: the company will have to abandon its rightful claim simply because it does not have the financial muscle to continue.

The wider significance of this ruling is that companies have virtually no redress for losses suffered through miscarriages of justice. Is this the British justice we were all taught to regard so highly?

Yours faithfully,
R. W. DUNK,
c/o Liddell Zurbrugg
(Solicitors),
15-17 Jockey's Fields, WC1.
February 25.

Animal traps

From Mr Robert Morgan

Sir, Peter Davies, the Director General of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (letter, February 27; see also letter, February 25), suggests that implementation of the Agreement on Humane Trapping Standards might lower the European Union's high animal-welfare standards.

An independent scientific report (*Study into Trapping in Five European Union Countries* by Dominique Crasson) demonstrates that EU standards fall far below those in Canada and the United States.

In particular, none of the five countries studied (including the UK) has any form of scientific national trap standards or trap-testing procedures in place to establish what is acceptable or humane.

Any limited testing which exists usually deals only with the mechanical aspects of traps, whereas Canada, the US, and the International Fur Trade Federation have invested $14 million in a programme of trap research.

The RSPCA agrees "that a multilateral approach could increase global welfare standards". An international agreement would be a significant step forward for animal welfare. Rejection would be a missed opportunity to improve trapping practices, both internationally and in the EU.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT MORGAN
(Executive Officer),
British Fur Trade Association,
Brookstone House,
6 Elthorne Road, N19.

Combating poverty

From the Director of the Low Pay Unit

Sir, Your leading article, "Cost of benefit analysis" (February 24), asserts that "poverty pressure groups ... are more inclined than ever to support welfare-to-work measures".

This organisation, for one, has long advocated measures to lift people off benefit dependency as the most effective means of tackling growing poverty.

Unemployment has forced many into welfare dependency, wasting their skills and sapping their sense of self-worth. Low pay is the single most important cause of poverty, with the taxpayer required to subsidise cowboy employers through benefit top-ups — now costing £3 billion a year — to their staff.

Social security can alleviate the worst symptoms of poverty, but if we are to tackle the disease itself we need to challenge the underlying causes, of which low pay and unemployment are the most important.

Yours sincerely,
CHRIS POND,
Director,
Low Pay Unit,
27-29 Amwell Street, EC1.
February 28.

Business letters, page 31

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Register of electors

From Mr Barrie Lane

Sir, Cameroon has recently joined the Commonwealth. Citizens of that country, of age and resident in the UK on October 10, 1996, will therefore be entitled to be entered in the recently published (February 16) Register of Electors. Once registered they will be able to vote at the next UK general election whenever that is called, as is the right of citizens of the Commonwealth and the Republic of Ireland.

If Palestine, Rwanda, Yemen and half a dozen Middle Eastern countries also join the 50 plus Commonwealth countries (report, later editions, February 19) then presumably they, similarly, will also be able to vote in UK general elections.

What a pity that European Union citizens (other than from the UK and Irish Republic) resident here are not allowed such a vote, although they are able to participate in local elections.

Perhaps the rules should be simplified so that nationality is irrelevant to the registration of electors.

Yours faithfully,
BARRIE LANE
(Treasurer, Inner London Branch,
Association of Electoral Administrators),
80 Park Avenue,
Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex.
February 19.

So galling

From Mr Christopher Stell

Sir, Now that Stonehenge may have been built by ancient Bretons, perhaps even Asterix and his friends (report, March 1), would our esteemed consul, Major Inpecunius, consider, as a parting gesture, emulating his sop to the Picts by repatriating it — on condition that it is returned to us for the summer solstice?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER STELL,
Frognal,
25 Berks Hill,
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.
March 1.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Queen gave a Reception this evening at Buckingham Palace for the winners of The Queen's Awards for Export, Technological and Environmental Achievement in 1996.

The Duke of York, The Princess Royal, The Duke of Gloucester and The Duke of Kent were present.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Princess Royal, as President of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, will visit Simon Carter, 15 Quadrant Arcade, 80-82 *Regent Street, W1; 11.30: as Pres*ident of the Animal Health Trust, will attend a Corporate Fellows luncheon at Buckingham Palace at 12.45; and, as President of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, will visit Ritva Kariniemi, 17 Devonshire Mews, W4, at 3.30.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron of the Parkinson's Disease Society, will visit the headquarters at 22 Upper Woburn Place, WC1, at 11.00; and will attend a reception at Drapers' Hall in aid of Marriage Care, at 7.30.

Princess Alexandra will attend a thanksgiving service at St Martin in the Fields at 2.55 to mark the centenary of The King's Fund.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
The Bishop of Rochester was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Dr Habib Zuberi presided.

Lord-Lieutenant

Mr George Robert Marwick has been appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Orkney in succession to the late Brigadier Malcolm Gray Dennison.

Premium Bonds

The £1 million prize in the Premium Bond draw for March was won with bond number 50HK 332951. The winner lives in Surrey, and has a bond holding of £10,100.

School news

The Red Maids' School, Bristol
The Governors of The Red Maids' School are pleased to announce the following awards for September 1997:
11+
Major Scholarship: Laura Erdmanis, Fairfield PNEU School.
Scholarships: Sophie Brown, The Red Maids' Junior School; Katherine Press, The Red Maids' Junior School.
Bursary: Stephanie Pearce, The Red Maids' Junior School.
Music Scholarship: Sarah Hutter, The Red Maids' Junior School.
Music Scholarship (half): Emma Thackeray, Henleaze Junior School.
16+
Whitson Bursaries (closed awards): Nicole Hunter, Beth King, Gabrielle Palmer, Alanna Pentlow.

The Red Maids' School has existed since 1634 to provide an education for girls.

Lecture

Edith Kahn Memorial Lecture
Professor Brian Edwards delivered the annual CSV Edith Kahn Memorial lecture last night at the House of Commons by courtesy of Mr Andrew Rowe, MP.

Appointment

Sir Alcon Copisarow has been appointed trustee of the Athenaeum in succession to the Right Rev Lord Coggan.

Today's birthdays

Sir David Barnes, chief executive, Zeneca Group, 61; Professor Sir Alan Battersby, Professor of Organic Chemistry, 72; Sir Arthur Bryan, former Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire, 74; Mr Nicholas Coleridge, journalist, 40; Mr Kenny Dalglish, football manager, 46; Mr Graham Dowling, cricketer, 60; Professor H.J. Eysenck, psychologist, 81; Mr Harvey Goldsmith, impresario, 51; Mr Jeff Grayshon, rugby league player, 48; Mr Bernard Haitink, KBE, conductor, 68; Mr John Hunt, former Headmaster, Roedean School, 65; Lord Johnston of Rockport, 82; Mr Ralph Kirshbaum, cellist, 51; Mr Stuart Mawson, otolaryngologist, 79; Mr Patrick Moore, astronomer, 74; Mr Alan Sillitoe, writer, 69; Mr Peter Skellern, composer and singer, 50; Sir Keith Stuart, chairman, Associated British Ports Holdings, 57.

Professor Michael J. G. Farthing, Dean of St Bartholomew's and the Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry, celebrated his 49th birthday on Sunday and not his 71st birthday as announced.

Dinners

University of Central Lancashire
The Ambassador of the Czech Republic was present at a dinner given by the Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Central Lancashire last night at the university to mark the acceptance of an honorary fellowship by Mr Libor Pešek, KBE, Music Director of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, the Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Captain N. Lloyd Edwards and the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Max Phillips, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, last night. The guest speaker was Mr Simon Heffer, *Daily Mail*. Mr Alan Rosser, Chief Executive, IMC Consulting Group, presided.

Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group
The Annual Deloitte & Touche Defence Dinner was held at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies last night. Mr John Everett, Head of the Consulting Group, was in the chair. Mr James Arbuthnott, Minister for Defence Procurement, was Guest of Honour and also spoke. Senior members of HM Forces, the Defence Establishment and Defence Industry attended.

Athenaeum
Mr Michael Hockney was the speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Sir David Crouch was in the chair.

University news

Cambridge
Corpus Christi College
Elected to Visiting Fellowships during 1997-98:
Professor R S Anderson, Simon Fraser University, Canada; Professor G Barritt, University of South Australia; Professor P Callaghan, Massey University, New Zealand; Professor S Carette, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Quebec, Canada; Professor P Djuric, State University of New York; Professor M Greenhalgh, Australian National University; Professor R D Guthrie, University of Alaska; Dr C Jansohn, University of Bonn; Professor K Mezei, Simon Fraser University, Canada; Dr A P J Middelberg, University of Adelaide; Professor O A Westad, Norwegian Nobel Institute.

Senior service appointments

Royal Navy and Royal Marines
Rear-Admiral D.A.J. Blackburn to be promoted to Vice-Admiral and to be Chief of Staff to the Commander Allied Naval Forces Southern Europe in succession to Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Moore in September 1997.
Rear-Admiral I.A. Forbes to be Commander United Kingdom Task Group/Commander Anti-Submarine Warfare Strike Force in succession to Rear-Admiral A.W.J. West in October 1997.

ALAN WELLER



Olivia Lyster, aged five, from Eleanor Palmer School, takes a good look at a fast disappearing animal — a water vole at Camley Street Natural Park, King's Cross, London, where Professor David Bellamy yesterday launched a campaign to save this vanishing species. The vole, or water rat, used to be found all over Britain. Now it is declining so fast that by 2000 it will have vanished from nine out of ten of its old sites

Memorial services

Major-General C.W. Woods
A service of celebration and thanksgiving for the life of Major-General Bill Woods was held yesterday at the Church of St Thomas, Lymington. Canon Michael Weaver officiated, assisted by the Rev Julian McDowall.

General Sir John Stibbon, Chief Royal Engineer, read the lesson and Mr Charles Richards, grandson, gave a reading. Major-General Oliver Roome gave an address. Among others present were:
Major-General and Mrs N W F Richards (son-in-law and daughter), Mr Peter Richards and Miss Helen Richards (grandchildren), Mr F A Woods (brother), Mr A Woods, Mrs R Nunneley.
Lady Stibbon, General Sir Hugh Beach, Lieutenant-General Sir David and Lady Willison, Lady Cowley, Lady Hunt, Rear-Admiral and Mrs J Harkness, Air Vice-Marshal and Mrs D Hawkins, Mr and Mrs J Roome, Commander and Mrs E Bruce, Major-General H E M L Garrett, Major-General and Mrs J Groom, Major-General and Mrs J Page, Major-General and Mrs L Scott-Bowden, Major-General and Mrs P Shapland, Major-General and Mrs J Woollett.
Brigadier and Mrs D Barker-Wyatt, Brigadier and Mrs R Blakeway, Brigadier and Mrs J Purser, Brigadier A Lewis, Colonel and Mrs M Cobb, Colonel J Capadose, Colonel E O'Callaghan, Captain J Fitzmaurice, Colonel A Poynder, Mr B Harris, Major and Mrs G Philip, Major R Anderson, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs S Jardine, Lieutenant-Colonel T Farmer, Major and Mrs J Hackford, Major and Mrs P Leslie, Major and Mrs L Coney, Colonel M Cooper and representatives of the Royal Artillery Yacht Club, the Royal Engineers Yacht Club, Earl Haig Homes, 571 Forward Company RE and Sister Companies Association and the New Forest branch of the Royal Engineers Association with many other friends and former colleagues.

Mr M.A.L. Cripps, QC
The Lord Chancellor was represented by Ms Elisabeth Hutchinson at a memorial service for Mr Anthony Cripps, QC, held yesterday at the Temple Church. Canon Joseph Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated.

Mr Peter Moore, Lord Howe of Aberavon, CH, QC, Mr C. Stephenson Clarke, Founder Master of the Fuellers' Company, and Mr Anthony Fletcher gave addresses. The Treasurer of the Middle Temple attended. Among others present were:
Mr Jeremy Cripps (son), Mr and Mrs Seddon Cripps and Mr and Mrs James Cripps (sons and daughters-in-law), Miss Stephanie Cripps, Mr Henry Cripps and Mr Scott Cripps (grandchildren), Mr Charles Cripps (brother) and other members of the family; representatives of 1 Harcourt Buildings, the Royal Tigers Association, the Fuellers' Company and many other friends.

Mr Andrew Hutchings
A service of thanksgiving to celebrate the life and work of Mr Andrew Hutchings, General Secretary of the Assistant Masters Association, 1939-78, and Founder Member and Vice-President of the Associated Examining Board, was held yesterday at the Church of St Martin-within-Ludgate. Canon John Halliburton, Chancellor of St Paul's, officiated.

Mr Seamus Hegarty, Director of the National Foundation for Educational Research, and Mr John Day, Secretary General of the Associated Examining Board, read the lessons.

Mr Geoffrey Beynon, Joint General Secretary, Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, Mr Peter Smith, General Secretary, Association of Teachers and Lecturers, and Mr Freddie Worrall, Vice-Chairman of the Associated Examining Board, gave addresses.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Henry the Navigator, Portuguese patron of voyages of discovery, Porto, 1394; Antonio Vivaldi, composer, Venice, 1673; Giovanni Schiaparelli, astronomer, Savigliano, Italy, 1835; Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco, Prime Minister of Spain 1973, Santona, Spain, 1903; Jim Clark, world champion racing driver, Berwickshire, 1936.

DEATHS: Saladin, Sultan of Egypt 1175-73, Damascus, 1193; Bernard Gilpin "Apostle of the North", Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, 1583; Jean François Champollion, Egyptiologist, Paris, 1832; William Willett, originator of daylight saving, Chislehurst, Kent, 1915; Sir Charles Sherrington, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1932, Eastbourne, 1952, William Carlos Williams, physician and poet, Rutherford, New Jersey, 1963.

King Henry VI was deposed by Edward Duke of York (King Edward IV), 1461, and restored October, 1470.

The first meeting of Congress was held in New York, 1789.

The first North Sea gas was piped ashore off the Durham coast, 1967.

Reception

Viscount Montgomery of Alamein
The Ambassador of Uruguay, Honorary President of the British Uruguayan Society, and Señora de Fischer, with members of the society, were entertained by Viscount Montgomery of Alamein at a reception held last night at the House of Lords.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. Bragg and Ms P. Wheatcroft
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of the late Mr and Mrs J.W. Bragg, of London, and Paula, daughter of Mr and Mrs K.G. Wheatcroft, of Thorney, Nottinghamshire.

Mr A.S. Brown and Dr K. Heslington
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Brown, of Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Karen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Barry Heslington, of Coxhoe, County Durham.

Mr P.M. Carney and Miss S.L. Green
The engagement is announced between Peter, youngest son of Dr and Mrs Michael Carney, of Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex, and Sarah Louise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Green, of Northwood, Middlesex.

Count Peter Krasiński and Miss A.V. Molesworth-St Aubyn
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Count and Countess Stanisław Krasiński, of Cuckfield, Sussex, and Anna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Molesworth-St Aubyn, of Great Waltham, Essex.

Mr W.J. Murch and Miss S. Jackson
The engagement is announced between William, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Symon Murch, of Osberton Grange, Nottinghamshire, and Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr P. Jackson, of Worksop, and Mrs H. Simmonds, of Gringley-on-the-Hill, Yorkshire.

Mr R.J. Rowson and Miss A.L.P Pearson
The engagement is announced between Rupert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Rowson, of Wapping, and Amy, elder daughter of His Honour Judge Benjamin Pearson, of Hadleigh, Suffolk, and Mrs Daphne Pearson, of King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Mr M.R. Cadman and Miss A.C. Jackson
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Colin Cadman, of Keston, Kent, and Ayesha, daughter of Mr Dennis Jackson, of Battersea, and Mrs Anita Jackson, of Chelsea.

Mr L.S. McArthur and Miss T.M. Bailey
The engagement is announced between Liam, son of Mr and Mrs William McArthur, of Sanday, Orkney, and Tamsin, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Bailey, of North Aston, Oxfordshire.

Mr F.A. White and Miss P.A.X. Shand
The engagement is announced between Francis, son of Ian and Lucy White, and Polly, daughter of Gordon and Belinda Shand.

Mr R.C. Wolloshin and Miss M.B.M. Elwes
The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Wolloshin, of Datchet, Berkshire, and Magdalen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gervase Elwes, of Astley, Worcestershire.

Marriages

Mr F. Edwards del Rio and Miss C. Latham-Koenig
The marriage took place on February 28, 1997, at St Bartholomew-the-Great, London, EC1, between Mr Felipe Edwards del Rio, son of Mr and Mrs Augustin Edwards del Rio, of Santiago, Chile, and Cécile, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alfred Latham-Koenig, of Hampstead, NW3.

Mr P.D. Gilpin and Ms N.V. Woolhouse
The marriage took place on Saturday, March 1, at Aldermaston Manor House, between Mr Paul Douglas Gilpin, son of Mr and Mrs John Gilpin, of Sheffield, and Nicola Valerie Woolhouse, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Howes, of Burghfield, Berkshire.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Alan Good, Honorary Curate, St Gregory, Horfield, Bristol: to be Honorary Chaplain at Southmead Hospital (Bristol).
The Rev James Graham, Rector, Hodnet w Weston Under Redcastle and Peplow: to be *also* Rural Dean of Hodnet (Lichfield).
The Rev Paul Hackwood, Social Responsibility Adviser to the Bishop of St Albans (St Albans): to be Vicar, Thornbury (Bradford).
The Rev Patricia Hopkins, Team Vicar, Barnham Broom and Upper Yare Group of Parishes (Norwich): to be Vicar, Otford (Rochester).
The Rev William Hurdman, Priest-in-charge, St Margaret's, King's Lynn: to be *also* Faith in the City Link Officer for the diocese of Norwich.
The Rev Robert Mellowship, Team Vicar, Pontypool (Monmouth): to be Priest-in-charge, Bressingham w North and South Lopham and Fersfield (Norwich).
The Rev Simon Moult, Curate, St John in Bedwardine (Worcester): to be joint Curate St Mark's, Bilton, Rugby (Coventry).
Canon Keith Newton, Vicar, Holy Nativity, Knowle and Rural Dean of Brislington: to be *also* Priest-in-charge, All Hallows, Easton (Bristol).
The Rev John Penny, joint Priest-in-charge, Upton St Leonards and Diocesan Communications Officer (Gloucester): to be Priest-in-charge, Stiffkey w Cockthorpe, Morston, Langham Episcopi and Binham (Norwich).
The Rev Andrew Wadsworth, Team Vicar, Honiton Team Ministry (Exeter): to be Vicar, Bulkington, w Shilton and Ansty (Coventry).

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Am I a God near at hand only, not a God when far away? Can anyone hide in some secret place and I not see him? Jeremiah 23 : 23,24

BIRTHS

BIRCH - On February 26th, to Isabelle (née de Casiou) and Simon, a son, Hugo William Simonnot Birch.
BUTLER - On February 27th to Rebecca (née Pell) and Ashley a daughter Joanna Victoria.
CAPALDI - On February 27th, to Harriet (née Hayes) and John, a son, Thomas William, a brother for Camilla.
CHURCH - On 22nd February to Tony and Diana (née Holland) of Epping, Essex, a son, Kieran James Thurston, a brother for Gerard.
CLARK - On 21st February 1997 in London, to Karen Hart and Jeremy Clark, a daughter, Amelia Raffaella.
COOMBS - On Tuesday 25th February 1997, to Michael and Amanda, a daughter, Eleanor Rose.
COTTIN - On 28th February, to Jacques and Caroline (née Hingley), in Grenoble, France, a son, Tomas Henri.
DAVIES - On 1st March 1997, in Paarl, South Africa, to Susan (née Cooke) and Guy, a son, Robert, a brother to Richard.
DE GROOT - On 27th February, to Deborah and Mark, a daughter, Poppy Mary.
FALCONER - On February 25th, to Deborah (née Close) and Patrick, a son, John Douglas.
HAMILTON - On February 26th to Sarah (née Hutton) and Tom, a son, Flynn Francis.
HART - See Clark.
HOOD - See Seagrim.
HUGHES - On February 25th 1997, to Jen (née Donaldson) and Alastair, a daughter, Katherine Lochead.
HUGHES - On February 25th at Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea, W6, to Alexandra (née Vracas) and William, a son, Archibald "Archie".
JENKINS - On February 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Jane (née Scott) and Edward, a daughter, Anna Mary.
LAW - On 27th February, to Lucy (née Campbell Golding) and Michael, a daughter, Natasha, a sister for Archie.
LEVINSON - On February 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Mark and Jean, a daughter, Kate Elizabeth, a sister for Ben.
LOMAX - On February 24th 1997, to Deborah (née Payne) and Peter, a daughter, Sophie Victoria, sister for Daniel.
MARCHANT WINK - Robert and Penelope (née Owen) are pleased to announce the birth of Alexandra Tessa on 26th February 1997 at the Eastern General Hospital, Edinburgh, a sister for James.
MARLOW-PRINCE - On February 22nd at The Portland Hospital, to Collette and Paul, a son, Fred, a brother for India.
MOBBS - On 22nd February 1997, to Justine (née Ritchie) and Julian, a son, Ben Xavier, a brother for Harry.
MOORE - On February 26th at The Portland Hospital, to Catherine and Rupert, a daughter, Mary Ashley Dickson Moore.
MURRAY BROWN - On February 27th, to Valli and John, a daughter, sister for Louis and Alec.

BIRTHS

MOSS - On February 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Kerstin and Andrew, a son, Jacob Daniel, a brother for Samuel.
NEWMARK - On 26th February at The Portland Hospital, to Ellen (née West) and Evan, a daughter, Kira Ruth.
PATTERSON - On February 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Allison (née Roake) and Stuart, a daughter, Georgia, a sister for Lauren.
REID - On February 27th 1997, to Nicki (née Barclay Jacobs) and Robert, a son, Alexander Robert Mozzy, a brother for Hugo.
ROCKE - On 16th February, to Caroline (née McCarthy) and George, a daughter, Anna Patricia Mansfield, a sister for Barnaby.
SEAGRIM - On February 25th, to Georgina (née Hood) and John, a daughter, Ochre Georgina.
WATKINSON - On 27th February, to Caroline (née Campbell of Lochnell) and Paul, a son, George Nicholas.
WENTWORTH-STANLEY - On 27th February 1997, to Annie and Adrian, a daughter, Olivia.
YOUNG - On 22nd February, 1997, to Clare and Patrick, Zachary William Hunter, brother to Alexander, Rosalind, Katharine, Imogen and Beatrice.

MARRIAGES

TOWERS:DOUGLAS - On February 14th 1997 at Belgate Register Office, Charles Hugh Towers to Elizabeth Jane Douglas (née Moon).

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

BACON:BAILES - On 4th March 1957 at West Wickham, Kent, Paul Martin Bacon to Fiona Jean Bailes.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

SECCHI:STEWART - On 4th March, 1947 at the Church of St James, Spanish Place, London W.1., Leopold Anthony ("Tony") Secchi to Jemima Frances Mary ("Jimmie", "Jane") Stewart. Present address: 32 Rowans Park, Lymington, Hants. SO41 9GS.

PEARL ANNIVERSARIES

WHITFIELD - My Dear Wife Carole, on our 30th wedding anniversary - you are indeed a pearl, amongst the finest of gems. We love you dearly. Bob and daughter Karen.

DEATHS

ABBOTT - Margaret Elizabeth, on 1st March 1997 died peacefully in her sleep. Widow of the late James P. Abbott, adored mother of Frances, stepmother to Bernard and wonderful "Ganny" to Lucy, Tim, Mark and Lindsey-Anne. Family flowers only. Donations to Diabetic Retinopathy Unit, Hammersmith Hospital, Du Cane Road, London W12 0HS. All enquiries to Mr and Mrs RJ. Abbott on (01737) 833717.
AKANDE - Eniola Iluyemisi. On February 22nd 1997 at the Lister Hospital, Chelsea Bridge Road. Funeral Service at St John the Evangelist Church, Hyde Park Crescent, W2, Saturday March 8th at 10 am followed by Interment at Kensal Green Cemetery 12 noon. Donations in lieu of flowers if desired to Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o J.H. Kenyon, 83 Westbourne Grove, London W2 4UL.
ASHLEY - Rosemary (née de Saussmarez) in Guernsey. Enquiries to Beckfords Funeral Services Ltd. Tel (01481) 64202.
BERESFORD-PEIRSE - Joy (née Percival) on March 1st peacefully at Greenfields Home aged 81. Beloved wife of Michael and mother of Judy and Sexie, grandmother of Clare, Tom and Lucy. Private cremation. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at St Mary and St Michael's Church, Doddington, on Thursday March 6th at 3 pm to which all friends are invited.
BLACKWOOD - Wing Commander George Douglas Morant, on Sunday, 2nd March 1997, aged 87, peacefully at the Murrayfield Hospital, Edinburgh, beloved husband of Phyllis, father of Maureen and Michael and much loved father-in-law and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Mary's Episcopal Church, Dalmahoy, on Friday, 7th March at 3 pm. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, to The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, c/o Murray Beith Murray, W.S., 39 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3BH.
CARTER - John Mackenzie, classicist, much loved husband of Gill, father of Colin and Judith, brother of Bridget and stepfather of Simon, Mark and Daniel, died in hospital on 27th February 1997. Funeral Service at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Friday 7th March at 1 pm. Floral tributes, or donations to MIND, to E. Hooper & Son, 13 St James Parade, Bath BA1 1UL.
COOK - Brigadier Francis Bryan. Born 11th November 1930, died at home 27th February 1997. Husband of Pamela, beloved father of John and Sarah and devoted grandad of Amber-Jane. Late of the Metropolitan Police, Northern Rhodesia Police, Aden State Police, Lesotho Mounted Police and former Assistant Inspector General of The Royal Oman Police. A man who touched and changed so many lives, a man who will be missed by many. Funeral Service Worthing Crematorium Friday 7th March 1997 at 2.40 pm. Flowers or donations for N.A.R.P.O. c/o Dillistone F.S., 191 South Farm Road, Worthing, tel: (01903) 200635.
CROWE - Ruth. Peacefully on February 27th 1997 at Barking Hall Nursing Home, aged 78 years, beloved wife of the late Percy, dearest mother of Michael and Susan and much loved grandmother of Quentin, Emma, Ian and Nick. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Polstead on Monday March 10th at 11 am.
CUTLER - Sir Horace Walter, OBE, FRSA. Peacefully on March 2nd, aged 84. Funeral Service in Fulmer Parish Church on Tuesday, March 11th at 2.30 pm. Flowers to Chiltern Funerals, Montello House, Laytern Green Lane, Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9JB.
de VALL - On 2nd March 1997 John Percival of Littlehampton. Deardy loved husband of Jean and father of David. Enquiries to Reynolds Funeral Service, Cemetery Lodge, Horsham Road, Littlehampton. Tel: 01903 730666.
FRENCH - Peacefully after a brave struggle, following a month in intensive care, Laurence, aged 65 years. A beloved husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at Edwardstone Parish Church, near Sudbury, Suffolk, on Friday 7th March at 2 pm, followed by burial. Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, for the West Suffolk Hospital Rainbow Appeal for Children may be sent to The Co-operative Funeral Service, Cormard Road, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6XA. Tel: 01787 372736.
FRITZLAN - On 26th February 1997 peacefully at his home in Washington, D.C., David Fritzlan, U.S. Foreign Service (retired), the dearly loved and loving husband, father and grandfather of Marigold, Simon, Charles and Rachel. A service of thanksgiving will be held in England later this year.
FURNIVAL JONES - On 1st March 1997 Sir Martin Furnival Jones CBE aged 84 years, dear husband of Margaret, father of Nikki and grandfather of Martin and Guy. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Monday 10th March at 11.45 am. No flowers. Donations, if desired, to R.S.P.B., Sandy, Beds.
GOLDSMITH - Maurice, died 2nd March 1997. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium at 12.30 pm on 6th March.
GOMEZ - Cyril, Structural Engineer of Sutton Court, Chiswick W4, died suddenly and unexpectedly at Charing Cross Hospital on 26th February 1997 aged 62. Dearly beloved and devoted husband of Kanta, father of Dominique, son-in-law Wayne, Andre, Laurente and Zynie, grandfather of Leon, brothers, sisters, families in India. Funeral on Friday 7th March 1997, 10 am Mass Our Lady of Grace and St Edward, 247 High Road, Chiswick W4, followed by interment at Mortlake Cemetery. Flowers to be sent to Patrick Ryan & Daughter, 6 South Ealing Road, Ealing W5 4QA, tel: (0181) 567-1664.
HEIGHAM - Norma, PhD, (née Furniss), of Stoke Newington and Torrevieja, Spain; formerly of Batley, Yorkshire, Oxford and Islington; February 21st on holiday at Aswan in Upper Egypt. Aged 64. Funeral 11am Tuesday 11th March. Details (0171) 923-1833.
HOHENBERG - Hanns, dearly loved husband to Serena, father to John and grandfather to Mark and Alexa, died peacefully at home on March 1st, after a short illness courageously borne. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral to be held at The Cemetery, Hoop Lane, London NW11, at 1 pm, Tuesday March 11th. Enquiries to 0181 441 6047.
HUTCHISON - Graham George peacefully at home on February 28th, beloved husband of Bobbie (Betts), loving father of Caro and Fomi, Poppa to Polly, Lisa, Daisy, Chloe, Tom and Harry. Thanksgiving Service at Holy Trinity Church, Crockham Hill, on Monday 10th March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations may be sent to Cancer Research Campaign c/o Mrs Kalleud, Deepdale, Westerham, Kent.
KELLY - John Michael on 26th February 1997 at home. Deeply loved husband of Christina, father of Laura and Geraldine, and grandfather of Isla, Jenna, Sean and Kirstie. Loved and respected by family, friends and clients for his solicitude, generosity and integrity, and for his passion for a wide range of music. Service at Beckenham Crematorium (Elmers End) on Friday 7th March at 11am. All welcome. Family flowers only, please. Donations to Harestone Marie Curie Hospice, c/o W.A. Thomas & Son, Ltd, Funeral Directors, Caterham, tel: (01883) 345345.
KINGSLEY WILLIAMS - Judith Mary (née Ashcroft) on 28th February, peacefully at Atkinson Morley Hospital. Funeral on Monday 10th March at 3 pm, Leatherhead Parish Church, followed by private (family) cremation. Please no flowers, but donations if desired to Epsom Medical Equipment Fund, c/o the Chief Executive, Epsom General Hospital.
KINNAIRD - Graham Charles, 13th Baron Kinnaird, on 27th February 1997, aged 84, at home. Private funeral. A Memorial Service will be held at Rossie Priory Chapel at 3 pm on Friday March 14th.
McCORMICK - David Francis Hamilton, suddenly in South Africa on 26th February, aged 81; beloved husband of Moira, dearly loved father of Miranda, stepfather of Gemma and grandfather of Rupert. Funeral on Wednesday 12th March at 3pm at the Church of St Lawrence, Stratford-sub-Castle, Salisbury. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the British Heart Foundation, c/o D. Shergold, 159 Fisherton Street, Salisbury, Wilts.
MOTT - Joan Evelyn on 3rd March peacefully at home. Dearly loved wife of Francis and mother of Michael and Carolyn. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium 4 pm Friday 7th March. No flowers please.
NEWTON - Rosemary Enid, widow of Guy. Rolfo died on 28th February 1997. The courage and dignity she displayed was so utterly typical of her, as her countless friends and admirers will recognise with a smile. She will be remembered forever by her adoring family. Private cremation. No flowers please, but any donations in memory to Sir Michael Sobell House Hospice, Churchill Hospital, Oxford OX3 7LJ, (01865-225866). A Thanksgiving Service will follow at St Andrew's Church, Old Headington, at 3.30 pm on Friday 21st March 1997.
O'HANA - Eugenie peacefully at home on 25th February 1997 after a long illness. Widow of Jacques O'Hana deceased. Any correspondence to Tony Yahlon of Eversheds, Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4JL.
PHILIPS - Barbara (née Bett) on February 27th 1997 aged 90 years, beloved wife of Richard, greatly loved and respected by all her family. Funeral Service at Lodsworth, Sussex, on March 6th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Peter's, Lodsworth.
RICHARDS - Rev. Canon John Michael. Peacefully at the London Clinic, after a short illness, in his 73rd year. Funeral Mass at St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street, Chelsea, on Thursday 6th March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to St Mary's, Cadogan Street.
SELLERS - Olwyn Patricia, February 27th 1997 peacefully at Ysbyty Gwynedd after a long illness bravely borne. Much adored wife of Bill and mother of Paul, Suzy and Peter and G.M. to Louise, Carolyn and Sarah. Private service at Bangor Crematorium. No flowers but donations if desired may be sent to The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX.
SHANKS - On 5th February 1997, suddenly in hospital, Dr. Walter Shanks, Honorary Consulting Physician, The Royal London Hospital, past President of The British Institute of Radiology, much loved father and grandfather. Family funeral held on 15th February, memorial at a later date.
SIFF - Pauline Lily died very peacefully with great dignity 28th February. Much loved wife of Maxens and mother of Daniela. Funeral Service Thursday 6th March 11.30am, Golders Green Cemetery, Hoop Lane, NW11, followed by evening prayers at 6.30 pm, West London Synagogue, 33 Seymour Place. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to British Friends of the Art Museums of Israel, Box 2283, London W1A 1NP.
STEELE - On March 1st, 1997, Eric, aged 93 years. Much loved husband of the late Emily and father of Carolyn and Jeremy. Funeral Service at St James's Church, Acton Trussell, Stafford on Friday March 7th, 1997 at 11.30am. No flowers please, donations instead to The Church Lads' and Girls' Brigade or to St James's Church, Acton Trussell.
SPARK - On February 25th peacefully at Threeways Nursing Home, Seaford, Margaret Alice L.R.A.M. aged 91 years. A fondly remembered teacher for many years at St Bernard's Preparatory School, Surbiton, a gifted musician and a much loved friend. She will be greatly missed. A Thanksgiving Service will be held on Monday March 10th at 2 m at St Leonard's Church, Seaford. No flowers, but donations if desired to Helen House Hospice, Oxford c/o Seaford Funeral Service, BN25 1EU, tel: (01323) 893889.
VON BECK - Peacefully on February 28th 1997 in The London Clinic, after a short illness, Baron Stephen Rolf Von Beck, aged 48 years, "Husband" of Mrs. Jackie Phillips. Funeral Service at St Mary's Church, Hadleigh, Suffolk on Friday March 7th at 2 pm followed by interment at Raydon Church. Flowers, or if preferred donations payable to Miss Veronica Todd, The London Clinic Patient and Relative Support Group for Cancer may be sent to Farthing, Singleton & Hastings, 650, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4FW.
WILKINSON - Kathleen Mary, on 28th February 1997, peacefully in hospital, aged 76 years. Much loved by all her family. Funeral Service at Wesley Memorial Church, New Inn Hall Street, Oxford on Wednesday 13th March at 12 noon. No flowers please, but donations to N.C.H.O. c/o Arnold Funeral Service, 911 London Road, Loudwater, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP10 9TF, (01494) 472572.
WOODCOCK - On 2nd March peacefully at home after a long illness borne with patience and fortitude, William John Woodcock. Beloved husband of Pat, dearest father of Felicity, Robert, Jill, Guy, Eve and Naomi and a dearly loved grandfather to eleven grandchildren. Funeral at St Bartholomew's (on the hill), Churchdown at 11.45 am Friday 7th March. Donations to Friends of St Bartholomew's c/o S.C. & B.S. Cocks, 59 Hucciecote Road, Gloucester GL3 3TL.
WOOD - Janet (née Clay). On Saturday March 1st peacefully in hospital. Enquiries to A. Wakely & Sons Tel: 01308 423726.

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OBITUARIES

DAVID MURISON

David Murison, editor of the *Scottish National Dictionary* from 1946 to 1976, died on February 17 aged 83. He was born on April 28, 1913.



David Murison was a scholar who dedicated his life to recording the Scots tongue, once the language of state and court, still vigorous in his own youth but much attenuated by the end of his life. He leaves as a monument the *Scottish National Dictionary*, a magnificent work, erudite yet full of lore and love, lit by anecdote and social detail.

David Donald Murison, the son of a joiner, was born in Fraserburgh in Buchan, in ancient days a Pictish province and in his time a bastion of the vivid and grammatically confident old Scots tongue. The family moved to Aberdeen when he was seven. After Aberdeen Grammar School he took a first in classical philology at Aberdeen University in 1933 and followed it with a first in the same subject at Cambridge in 1936.

He returned to Aberdeen as assistant to the Professor of Greek, and rarely strayed from Scotland thereafter. He spent the war working on a smallholding near Stirling and in 1946 was invited to apply for the post of deputy editor to William Grant on the *Scottish National Dictionary*. Grant had started the dictionary in 1929 at the beginning of his own retirement from academic life in Aberdeen. It was to be the culmination of a lifetime's work, begun in 1907, of collecting data and conducting fieldwork.

When Grant died in 1946, having carried the work as far as the letter C, Murison succeeded him and applied himself with exceptional dedication and industry, first in Aberdeen and then, from 1954, in Edinburgh until the dictionary's conclusion in 1974. Resources were needed to supplement the support given to the project by the four ancient Scottish universities (later joined by the new institutions of Dundee and Stirling) and he proved himself also to be a tenacious and successful fundraiser.

The work was completed with unusual speed for a dictionary of this kind. A mere 45 years separated A and Z. Murison personally edited seven-and-a-half of the dictionary's ten volumes, along with a supplement which was, in effect, a revision of the earlier volumes. Professor A. J. Aitken, editor of the sister publication, the *Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue*, and the founder of the teaching of Scots in the universities, calculates that Murison was responsible for seven-eighths of the whole *SND*.

Murison oversaw every entry, revising and reshaping. He contributed essays on the phonetic treatment, prefixes and suffixes, and etymology. He was also responsible for the *Miscellanea* in the final volume — inventories of personal names, the popular forms of place names, fairs and markets, weights and measures and scientific terms.

As editors Murison and Aitken were sustained and supported through academic appointments: Murison was given lectureships at Aberdeen and St Andrews. From 1975 until his retirement in 1978 he was Reader in English Language at Glasgow University. In the 1950s he advised BBC Scotland on a major radio series entitled *The Guid Scots Tongue*, and the best account of Murison's own attitudes is to be found in the book of the same name which he published in 1977.

A concise and lucid historical analysis traced the rise of Lowland Scots to the status of a state language sustaining also a significant literature, reaching its high watermark in the 16th century. It suffered three grave reverses — the adoption in Scotland of the Bible in English after the Reformation, the Union of the Crowns which removed the court to England, and the Union of the Parliaments a century later in 1707 when English supplanted Scots as the official language of Scotland.

Scots found continuing life, however, as a literary language, notably in the poetry of Burns and the novels of Scott. Indeed, the speech, rich with imagery and precisely delineated socially, given by Scott to his native characters is among his finest achievements.

Murison entertained hopes of the Scottish literary renaissance, led by his friend Hugh MacDiarmid (C. M. Grieve). MacDiarmid's first volume of poems in Scots, *Sangschaw* (1925), Murison wrote, lifted Scots out of the Kailyard (as the school of sentimentalist novelists became known) and gave it a new intellectual and philosophical significance.

Other poets, including Murison's friend and fellow classicist Douglas Young, made their contribution, but by 1936 the tide had receded. Murison was now pessimistic about the future of the language. It faced, he wrote, attenuation and even obliteration. The urban demotic, used by modern Scottish novelists, he regarded as a substandard and confused mixture of influences.

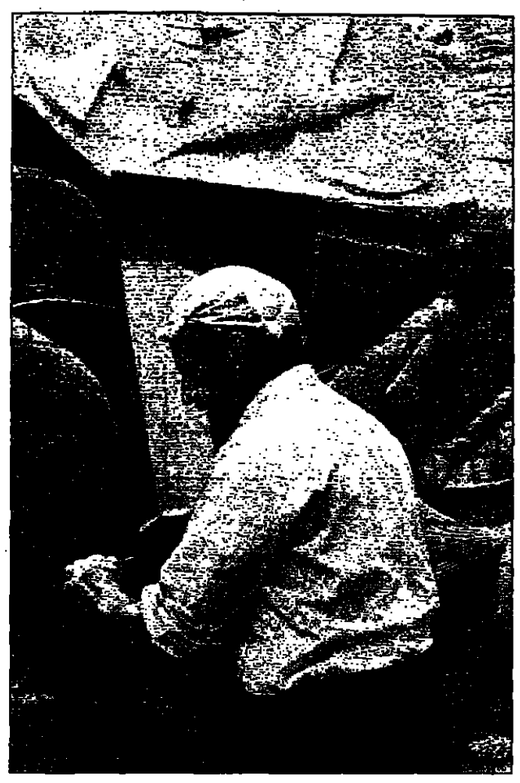
The pungent and confident old tongue, he thought, would continue to be spoken *diminuendo* in the country districts, and Scots-accented English would also persist. But, he added, the Scots language should be given an assured and permanent place in schools and universities. "Certainly no other European nation would tolerate anything less," he concluded. It is a point now generally accepted.

A friend described Murison as "aggressively modest". He had less than complete enthusiasm for the authorities. In particular he shunned all events and occasions arranged to honour him. He carried this attitude to its logical if extreme conclusion when he failed to attend the reception held to mark the final volume's publication in 1976. Yet his contribution to his country's understanding of its own culture and history was immense and to his scholarship he brought real passion.

He is survived by his wife Hilda. There were no children.

WALTER RITCHIE

Walter Ritchie, sculptor, died on February 12 aged 77. He was born on April 27, 1919.



ONE of the last links with Eric Gill, whose pupil he had been, Walter Ritchie was himself an artist of note, particularly in the field of public sculpture. He worked in the same representational tradition as Gill, and like him seemed as at ease with religious as with erotic subject matter.

Carving with a hammer and chisel was Ritchie's *métier*. He was best known for his work in brick, although when budgets allowed he preferred marble or other stone. He also experimented with a diversity of other materials, including aluminium, perspex, precious metals and wood. He made jewellery and produced graphics and book jackets, including an edition of Kazantakis's *Zorba the Greek*.

Ritchie, again like Gill, also had an interest in lettering. He was once employed by a printer and his love of typography came in useful when he later published limited edition books from his home in Kenilworth, such as Donald Potter's memoir, *My Time With Eric Gill*.

A shy and private man, who nevertheless enjoyed the friendship of many and was not afraid to be blunt in his dealings with others, Ritchie eschewed the commercialised art world of critics, dealers and galleries, and the "market" did him no favours in return. He only ever had two exhibitions in his life, the first 20 years ago at the London Building Centre, the second only last year.

But much of his work was large-scale public sculpture. Ritchie was happiest and most productive when working with enlightened architects engaged on public commissions (Warwickshire County Council was a major patron) and often found private patrons difficult to deal with on a one-to-one basis.

He had no time for committees, and after his unproductive experience of dealing with one over a competition entry for a 40ft sculpture for the east wall of Malmesbury Abbey, to be based on six virtues in the New Testament, he wrote: "A work of art should come from a love affair, not a shotgun marriage."

Eric Gill was an influence from the earliest age. When he was ten years old, Ritchie read a Gill monograph by Joseph Thorp. By 16 he was already showing a precocious talent, producing an almost life-size plaster-bronze figure of a young man, entitled *Aspiration*. He often said that Gill sat at the right hand of God and loved his slogans; but at Piggots, Gill's home near High Wycombe, Ritchie was to discover the discrepancy between his mentor's writing and practice.

Like Gill's, much of Ritchie's work was either intensely religious — or erotic — in content. At the time of his death he had started drafting some autobiographical memoirs intended for publication, and which had the working (and possibly, ultimate) title, *God, Sex and Walter Ritchie*.

Unlike Gill, however, he did not believe in using assistants, and because budgets were often tight, he executed much of his sculpture in relief rather than in the round. Works not in private collections are to be found adorning schools, churches, banks, hospitals, shopping and leisure centres. Having read and re-read Lewis Mumford's *Culture of Cities*, and through him, Patrick Geddes, he believed sculpture should be seen in the street, not in art galleries.

One of his last major commissions was a brick sculpture of Sir Leonard Hutton scoring his record-breaking innings of 364 runs against Australia in 1938, which is at the entrance to the Oval cricket ground and was unveiled in 1993. Other important works include the series called *The Adventures of Lady Sarah Wellington-Gore* (commissioned by the Brick Development Association); *Queen Elizabeth and the Washerwomen of Brandon Hill*, an intaglio carving in marble in the banking hall of NatWest, in the Bristol city centre; *The Creation*, at Bristol Eye Hospital; and *Solemates*, in the private collection of Bryan Montgomery.

He never married.

PROFESSOR PETER MORRIS

Peter Morris, Professor of Modern Politics and History at Aston University, died of cancer on February 1 aged 50. He was born on September 2, 1946.



PETER MORRIS was an ebullient personality, an inspiring teacher and an exact and prolific researcher. Equally at home in Britain and in France (where his work was valued highly), he produced and collaborated on a wide range of important studies in the politics and history of both countries. His sudden and early death comes just as he seemed about to enter the most productive phase of his career.

Peter Morris was educated at the Cambridge School for Boys and at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he took a first in history. It was as a PhD student that he began his long cross-cultural work on France and Britain. He spent a year in France at the École Normale Supérieure and then returned to a research fellowship at Emmanuel.

He resigned the fellowship after a year, however, when he was offered a lectureship in politics at the University of Nottingham. Apart from his tenure of the Elie Halévy Chair in the Institut d'Études Politiques in Paris, 1988-89, he was to remain at Nottingham as lecturer and senior lecturer for 25 years, until his appointment to a chair in the department of Languages and European Studies at Aston in January 1996.

As well as producing his widely adopted textbook, *French Politics Today*, he made distinguished contributions to collective work on such diverse subjects as the French Communist Party, the Right in French politics, French trade unions, the events of May 1968, the presidency and decentralisation. His temperament made him an ideal collaborator. He also edited and contributed to a number of volumes on French politics, such as *Equality and Inequality in France*, *France in the World* and (with Douglas Johnson) *A Biographical Guide to French Politics*.

The last of those titles was a massive volume produced for the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France, of which he was a founder member and membership secretary from 1981 to 1985. He edited the association's journal, *Modern and Contemporary France*, from 1989 to 1994.

Morris also published extensively on British history and politics, including (with Dennis Kavanagh) *Consensus Politics from Attlee to Thatcher*, *Histoire du Royaume Uni* (recently translated into Dutch), *Nineteenth Century Political Families* and *The Conservative Party and European Integration*.

He had a house in Barneville (Manche) and was a vice-president of the Anglo-French Society. He was also one of only six non-French board members of the recently constituted Institut François Mitterrand. He was the elegant translator of Raymond Aron's *Power, Modernity and Sociology* and of Serge Berstein's *The Republic of de Gaulle*.

His unfinished work includes the joint research for *Histoire de la Démocratie Libérale* and a book on the French and English responses to European integration. He was also a participating member of the Franco-Italian-British research group on *Les familles politiques en Europe*.

He stepped down from the chair at Aston when his pancreatic cancer was unexpectedly diagnosed at Christmas. He faced his illness with humour, stoicism and courage.

He is survived by his wife Rosemary and a stepson and stepdaughter.

PROFESSOR MALCOLM CHARLTON

An error in the editing of our obituary of Professor Malcolm Charlton yesterday resulted in two references to Jackson instead of Charlton. We apologise to Professor Charlton's family and friends.

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(From a private letter.)

"On Friday last, the colliers in the neighbourhood of Radstock and Paulton collected in a number of about three thousand and manifested some very serious symptoms of riot and destruction to the pits and the buildings annexed to them, which spread the greatest consternation, through the whole neighbourhood. Sir John Hippisley, accompanied by his brother magistrates, and several gentlemen, repaired to the spot, where he pointed out to them, in an impressive speech, the enormity of their offence. He read the Riot Act: it had no effect. They then proceeded and took possession of several of the works, and sent persons down into the pits to compel those who worked in them to be drawn up and then administered an oath not to work any more until their grievances were redressed, and threatened that night to demolish the works. Sir John and the magistrates sent immediately for a troop of the 23rd Lancers at Bristol, and the North Somerset Yeomanry, part of which arrived and kept order for the night, and by day-break the whole of the North Somerset Yeomanry were on parade at Stone-Easton-house and other places pointed out to them, so as to render assistance at every point where danger was apprehended. About 9 o'clock Sir John Hippisley, accompanied by a numerous assemblage of magistrates and gentlemen, proceeded to Paulton, where these men were said to be, who, on hearing of the approach of the military, retired to Clandown Coal-pits, and being pursued, retired to Radstock, where they made a stand, well furnished with immense bludgeons, and called out: "Bread or Blood: Hunt for Ever!" The cavalry here came up and filing off to the right and left, surrounded them, when Sir John Hippisley and the Magistrates came into the centre, and addressed them to the following effect—He wished to know what they wanted? They replied: 'Full wages, and that they were starving.' Sir John informed them, that the mode they had now adopted, by thus unlawfully assembling, was the very way to prevent any grievances they complained of being attended to: that he and his brother magistrates were determined to do their duty and do it they would. Sir John stated to them he was well informed and knew that their minds were inflamed by the disaffected, not only in speeches but by parodies on the liturgy of the church, endeavouring not only to seduce them from their King, but from their God.

"Previous to Sir John Hippisley's reading the Riot Act, he informed these infuriated men, that if they continued and remained one hour after the act was read, it would subject every person remaining to the sentence of death. He then read the Riot Act, when four of the principal of these deluded men were secured, and sent to Ilchester Prison, escorted by a detachment of the North Somerset Yeomanry Cavalry, when the remainder dispersed.

"It has been deemed necessary to station part of the 23d Dragoons at Paulton and Radstock, and the Yeomanry will be kept on duty for a few days longer on their respective parades."

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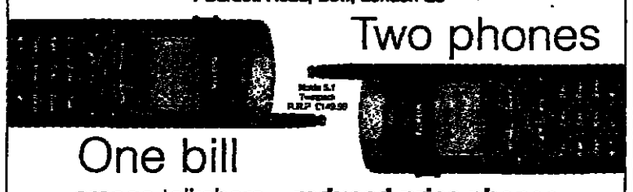
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Mike Curley
FCI Cambridge

Age: 27
Joined FCI: *August 1996*
Background: *Specialist floor layer, running team of 15 fitters and hardwood installers*
Territory Type: *60% rural; 40% urban*
Sales achievements: *Reached first year target of £100,000 after 6 months*
Best Month: *£30,069 in Nov 1996*
Biggest Job: *£6,090 for 5 bedrooms and upper hall in a new house*
Best source of customers: *FCI targeted leaflet distributions; in-store demos; specialist mailshots to niche markets*
Likes most about FCI: *Freedom; being own boss; doing the business and doubling my income overnight*



Ian Surgey
FCI Plymouth

Age: 37
Joined FCI: *July 1996*
Background: *Formerly Lieutenant Commander in Royal Navy submarines*
Territory Type: *Mixed rural and urban*
Sales achievements: *Hit the road running. £8,000 per month from the start*
Best Month: *£13,000 in Feb 1997*
Biggest Job: *£9,508 for a full house and 2 restaurants, all for the same customer*
Best source of customers: *FCI's Leaflet Distributions, targeted to the best housing areas in our territory*
Likes most about FCI: *Getting out and meeting people, and doing a first class job for them. Being "simply the best"*



Sue and Steve Walton
FCI Sheffield West

Age: *Both 44*
Joined FCI: *December 1995*
Background: *Owned Fitted Kitchen manufacturing and installing business*
Territory Type: *City and surroundings*
Sales achievements: *Set a tough target for first year sales, and beat it*
Best Month: *£19,400 in November 1996*
Biggest Job: *£5,492 for a full house, fitted with the same carpet throughout*
Best source of customers: *County shows, exhibitions, school fetes, etc*
Likes most about FCI: *Working from home, in a neat uncomplicated business: visit customer... sell product... measure... order from FCI... arrange fitting... get paid!*



John Allan
FCI Glasgow NW

Age: 51
Joined FCI: *July 1995*
Background: *Senior Management, British Telecom, retired after 33 years service*
Territory Type: *80% suburban; 20% rural*
Sales achievements: *Reached first year's sales target 3 months ahead of schedule*
Best Month: *£24,200 in November 1996*
Biggest Job: *£6,612 for a full house*
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Tenants still pay bill despite lease law change

BY RODNEY HOBSON

BUSINESSES trying to assign commercial leases are finding that there are still pitfalls despite changes in the law that have curbed the right of landlords to pursue leaseholders for rent.

Where leases have been signed after January 1, 1996, tenants are no longer responsible for rent after the lease has been assigned to another business. Landlords cannot unreasonably withhold permission for the lease to be reassigned.

However, the law is not retrospective and tenants who signed leases before the change in the law can still be held responsible for unpaid rent for the duration of the original lease, no matter how often the premises have been passed on.

Landlords can also insist that their legal fees for the assignment of the lease are paid for by the tenants.

Sue Gallagher ran a successful restaurant in a shopping precinct in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Relations with the property managers deteriorated to the point where she was determined to get out and start up again in Stratford-upon-Avon.

The lease had been signed seven years ago, long before the change in the law. Assigning it to two partners proved more time-consuming than she expected. It was also more expensive. She says: "The lease was assigned three weeks late. The two men taking over the restaurant were already in there. They could have walked out and it wouldn't have cost them a penny."



Gallagher: no recourse

Mrs Gallagher says she expected a bill of about £300 from Pinsent Curtis, the landlord's solicitor. In the event, she paid £1,000. When she queried the amount, Pinsent Curtis explained that it could, in fact, have claimed £1,389.

Barry Brice, national head of property at Pinsent Curtis, explains that his company would normally expect to charge about £350-£500 for assigning a lease. However, he adds: "It depends on the issues involved and how many mortgages there are on the property. It is not just the landlord who has to agree. He may have the property mortgaged to more than one bank. In this case there were two mortgagees."

He says one mortgagee balked because Mrs Gallagher did not want to be responsible under privity of contract for any future rent.

Mr Brice adds: "This was not a typical case. Issues were raised after we began work on reassigning the lease. It was not our fault or the landlord's that there was a delay. We kept Mrs Gallagher's solicitor fully informed at all stages."

Mrs Gallagher's case highlights the difficult position that tenants are in. She paid the bill before raising objections. She says: "I had no choice. The landlord could have refused to reassign the lease if I did not pay his fees."

She discovered that she has no recourse to the Law Society, which will normally arbitrate between a solicitor and client in the case of a disputed bill. Although Mrs Gallagher was paying the bill, she was not the solicitor's client.

Mr Brice explains: "Our costs have to be a reasonable figure and costs will change only if very much more work is involved or the facts change. Our client has the right to go to the Law Society but our client is the landlord, not Mrs Gallagher."

Mark Andrews meets a Reverend Mother with a fruitful sideline as a sculptor

Career shaped from God-given talent

FOR centuries those who have taken holy orders and lived within the confines of spartan monasteries and austere abbeys have had skilful and fruitful sidelines. Monks have brewed a powerful mead, distilled fine wines and liqueurs. Nuns have offered nursing, schooling and tranquil, contemplative retreats.

Sister Concordia, the 72-year-old Reverend Mother at the Minster Abbey near Canterbury in Kent, is a highly talented and skilled sculptress, whose work graces churches and cathedrals around the world, including the nearby Canterbury Cathedral. In a situation that most businessmen would envy, her orderbook is full for all this year. "I have never been so busy," she says.

Her speciality is the Madonna and Child. "It takes about three months to do one piece. I model it in clay then send it away to be cast in bronze. When people come to discuss what they want they have no idea what's involved. They think it's like going into a shop and buying one off the shelf.

"I'm running a business, not a charity. An original involves three months' work at least — sometimes longer. At the moment I'm working on a statue of St Augustine of Hippo, which is going to a school in Carlisle. After that it will be Our Lady with a group of children for a school in London and something special for Coventry to celebrate the millennium."

Sister Concordia finds that three works a year are enough. She started in 1953 when she became a nun and came to Minster. Now she is in charge of the abbey and its 12 nuns.

TONY WHITE



Sister Concordia is a highly talented sculptress whose works are found in churches and cathedrals around the world

"At first I found it difficult balancing my religious commitment with that of a sculptress. Normally, when you start a work you want to get on with it. But when you enter a monastery you give up your own self-will. You do what you're told. There are certain hours for prayer and certain hours for work.

"I found it very difficult to stop work when the bell went. But now it's marvellous. My job as a nun is one of prayer and it doesn't really clash with my work. St Benedict said our motto is work and prayer. This is why, having an artistic gift, a monastery is a perfect place to exercise it, especially if you're doing religious figures.

"But I'm a good businesswoman — most of the time. When people order a statue they ask very tentatively about cost. For some it's the first time they've come and they're a bit nervous about talking money. Some of the prices these days are exorbitant. So once we've thrashed out a reasonable figure we talk."

The price depends on the commission and how long it takes. Sister Concordia says: "I did a bronze Madonna for a church in Fifth Avenue, New York. The casting was £3,000 and my fee on top of that was £1,500. So it's pretty expensive." The money goes into the monastery's trust to help to run the abbey. Sister Concordia's studio is a draughty stable. In about four hours a day there she claims she gets more done than she would if she had unlimited hours.

"If you've got a talent you've got to use it. It was given to you by God. It's not my whole life — only part of it. But I do enjoy the business side of it. I got very intrigued with the financial world when we had a fire and our chapel was burnt down and we had to raise cash to build a new church.

"My life is perfectly balanced. What does it matter, when you're in a monastery, whether you make statues, bake cakes or plant cabbages? It's all the same. I don't have to go hunting for jobs. They just come in. I think that's the work of the Lord. He gave me the talent and He's making sure I use it. A full orderbook ... money in the bank ... satisfaction. I've no complaints."

BRIEFINGS

The amount of overdue debt is rising again, according to the latest quarterly report by Trade Indemnity, the credit insurance company. The average bill outstanding for more than 30 days rose from £228,000 to £275,000 at the end of last year, reflecting increased economic activity. Although the average length of payment delays was unchanged from the previous quarter at 22 days, Trade Indemnity says small businesses were still kept waiting longer than larger companies. Companies in East Anglia and Wales reported sharp rises in overdue debt, while amounts overdue in the Midlands and Yorkshire were the highest since the survey began in 1992. Trade Indemnity says that a sharp rise in delayed payments in the construction sector has been halted. Faster payers continue to be companies in the foods sector.

☐ Women Mean Business, a two-day exhibition with seminars and workshops for female entrepreneurs, will be opened by Anita Roddick of Body Shop at Olympia 2, London, on Friday.

☐ Entries for this year's Export Award for Smaller Businesses must be in by March 14. The award is open to independent companies with fewer than 200 employees that show a sustained growth in exports and sales outside the UK of more than £100,000. The five winners receive more than £45,000 worth of prize money and professional services from the sponsors. Grant Thornton, TSB Commercial Finance, TNT Express Worldwide, Kompass British Exports and the British Overseas Trade Board.
Details: 01342 326972.

☐ Barclays Bank is offering a 15 per cent discount on its insurance products until March 31 after a survey it conducted found that eight out of ten businesses fail to review their business insurance on a regular basis.

Firms fail to make full use of technology

BY SALLY WATTS

FULL use of information and communication technology is being restricted by the cost and a lack of understanding, especially among very small companies.

This is shown in *UK Business Moving Into The Information Society*, a nationwide survey of 500 companies published this week.

It is compiled by NOP Research Group and Spectrum Strategy Consultants, for the Information Society Initiative Programme for Business. The aim of the programme, a government and industry partnership, is to help companies to thrive in the information-based economy.

The survey examines 100 large firms (more than 250 employees), 300 small and medium-sized firms (between ten and 250 employees) and 100 small businesses (fewer than ten employees). Not surprisingly, the large companies are the main users of technology and networking.

The uptake of Information Society (IS) products and services is well developed. Nearly all companies have computers, and most have access to CD-Rom and/or modem access. Some 60 per cent use networking computers within or between sites.

Although most smaller businesses now have computers with modems, discrepancies occur — based on size — between those using computers with CD-Rom and/or modems.

Similarly, for one fifth of the smallest companies, cost and lack of understanding add up to a strong constraint on IS uptake. And, while 10 per cent of businesses interviewed are installing networking, others are deterred by the expense and complexity.

Most companies with computers are not yet using basic electronic communications such as e-mail, but this is expected to improve rapidly.

Unfortunately, many companies say they lack the knowledge to derive maximum benefits from the new products and services. Nearly half said their employees have insufficient understanding for companies to gain full competitive advantage from them. Partly, this reflects the limited training employees receive in handling equipment.

Some 69 per cent of companies of all sizes are well aware of the impact the IS can have on competitiveness. Although larger companies attribute greatest importance to the IS, nearly 80 per cent of SMEs now recognise its significance.

A larger survey, to be published in the summer, will trace progress towards the IS of Britain and other countries.

Information Society Business Infoline: 0345 152000.



Report highlights rural challenge

BY IOLA SMITH

THE fragility of the rural economy is the biggest challenge facing country communities in the run-up to the millennium, according to the Development Board for Rural Wales.

In *Rural Wales, a Challenge of Change*, its new strategy document which is aimed at Brussels as well as the UK, it highlights the dangers of the potential loss of European funds in 1999 when regional maps are redrawn.

Without the £200 million agricultural aid for rural Wales, the fear is that the entire region could decline. Much of the board's construction programme, including factory premises worth £750,000 this year, is funded by Brussels.

However, the prognosis is not all doom and gloom. The board has achieved its targets for 1996-97 of creating 1,500 new jobs and attracting £32 million of investment from the private sector. The region is recognising that, in the wake of the decline in agriculture and the crisis caused by BSE, rural communities are having to diversify if they are to survive.

Agriculture accounts for a quarter of jobs in rural Wales, while tourism is responsible for a further 9 per cent. Therefore, encouraging the growth of small manufacturing firms is vital if the region is to have a viable future in the 21st century. According to the report: "This sector has grown over the last ten years. Manufacturing employment grew by 14 per cent between 1981 and 1991 compared with a decline in Britain as a whole of 24 per cent."

If the region is to achieve its full potential, the report concludes, the public and private sectors, the UK and Brussels must work together. As the European Union declaration put it in 1996: "Rural development policy must be multidisciplined in concept and multisectoral in application."

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Revenue plans scare tactic for tax cheats

BY RODNEY HOBSON

THE jailing of Michael Allcock, the tax inspector convicted of taking bribes from wealthy foreign businessmen, could produce a clampdown on businesses that try to cheat the taxman, according to Grant Thornton, the business adviser.

Charlie Hall, head of Grant Thornton's tax department, says: "The Inland Revenue do not just prosecute their own. They are running scared and planning a major attack."

He believes that the Inland Revenue is "petrified" that the new system of self-assessment will lead to an increase in the number of tax cheats and will be stepping up the number of prosecutions in a bid to use the publicity as a major scare tactic.

Mr Hall, who is a former tax inspector, says: "Allcock's conviction should be seen as a timely reminder of just how serious investigations by the Inland Revenue can become."

He says that the Inland Revenue fears owner-managed businesses will be tempted to understate income, believing that no one will be examining the returns and accounts.

Tax officials refer to the new system as "help yourself assessment" and "the cheat's charter". They are even resorting to paying informers.

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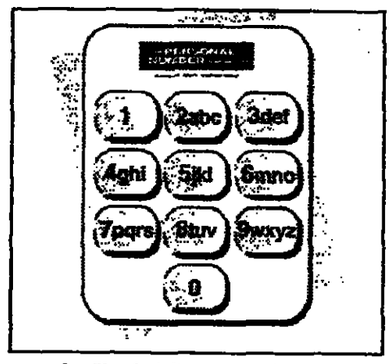
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07000 REACTS 732287 £500 Call 07000 888 777
07000 RIDE IT 743348 £500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 SAFE SEX 723373 £500 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 UNBLOCK 862562 £500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 VIRTUE 847883 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 WALRUS 925787 £500 Call 07000 888 777
07000 205 GTI 205484 £450 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 LAGER 452437 £450 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 4 SKODA 475832 £450 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 AUDI 80 283490 £450 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 AUDI A4 283424 £450 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 AUDI A6 283428 £450 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 AUDIS 2 283472 £450 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 0 BILLY 024559 £350 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 0 CRAIG 027244 £350 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 0 DIANE 034263 £350 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 0 GRANT 047268 £350 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 0 JAMIE 052843 £350 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 0 ROLEX 076539 £350 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 OTANDY 682639 £350 Call 07000 102 102
07000 4 BRASS 427277 £300 Ring 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 125CC 412522 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 A BOOK 422655 £250 Call 07000 777 666
07000 4 A LUSH 425874 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 A PAIN 427346 £250 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 4 A TOMB 428662 £250 Call 07000 102 102
07000 2 AMUSE 226873 £250 Call 07000 777 666
07000 4 BMW M3 428963 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 COMIC 428642 £250 Call 07000 777 666
07000 4 HITEC 444832 £250 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 4 GILTS 444587 £250 Call 07000 777 666
07000 5 SERIES 573743 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 7 SERIES 773743 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 800 SEL 800735 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 A1 PARTS 217278 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 A4 PAPER 347273 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 AIRMAIL 247624 £250 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 A KITCAR 254822 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 AUDI 100 283410 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 MCQUEEN 627833 £250 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 MIDWELD 644935 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 ON RAIL 667245 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 PARQUET 727783 £250 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 PET CAT 738223 £250 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 PLAY ME 752963 £250 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 RAYBURN 729287 £250 Call 07000 102 102
07000 TOP HAT 867428 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 TOY DOG 889384 £250 Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 MEMORABLE NUMBERS

07000 222444 £5,000 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 333999 £5,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 345678 £5,000 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 444666 £5,000 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 555333 £5,000 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 555911 £5,000 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 666222 £5,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 666999 £5,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 777222 £5,000 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 888111 £5,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 888222 £5,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 999222 £5,000 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 999666 £5,000 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 000002 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 000006 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 111666 £2,500 Ring 07000 666 777
07000 121131 £2,500 Ring 07000 666 777
07000 333939 £2,500 Ring 07000 666 777
07000 404404 £2,500 Call 07000 246 673
07000 405405 £2,500 Call 07000 246 673
07000 444911 £2,500 Call 07000 246 673
07000 555944 £2,500 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 606606 £2,500 Call 07000 246 673
07000 656007 £2,500 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 666911 £2,500 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 676678 £2,500 Call 07000 246 673
07000 888911 £2,500 Call 07000 246 673
07000 909909 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 911000 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 911111 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 911444 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102

07000 911555 £2,500 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 911666 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 911777 £2,500 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 987987 £2,500 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 999911 £2,000 Ring 07000 70 70 70
07000 999944 £2,000 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 001122 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 006677 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 222911 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 234500 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 336699 £1,500 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 665544 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 666900 £1,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 776655 £1,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 786700 £1,500 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 844444 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 963963 £1,500 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 998877 £1,500 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 123400 £1,000 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 333944 £1,000 Call 07000 246 673
07000 357357 £1,000 Call 07000 246 673
07000 432100 £1,000 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 444944 £1,000 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 456000 £1,000 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 654300 £1,000 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 666335 £1,000 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 678900 £1,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 888944 £1,000 Ring 07000 246 673
07000 909091 £1,000 Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 944111 £1,000 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 944222 £1,000 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 944999 £1,000 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 987800 £1,000 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 999335 £1,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 999991 £1,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 999992 £1,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 999997 £1,000 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 111355 £750 Call 07000 246 673
07000 111911 £750 Call 07000 246 673
07000 111944 £750 Call 07000 246 673
07000 123121 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 159159 £750 Ring 07000 888 777

PROFILE

COMPANY NAME:
MLG Chiswick

BUSINESS:
Sales of and servicing new and used BMW

NUMBER: 07000 4 MLG BMW

"MLG has been in the business for 40 years - in fact, we're one of the oldest dealerships in the country. In this business, you learn never to underestimate the importance of personal contact. So a memorable phone number that also incorporates our company name has got to be good for sales."

MLG of Chiswick

Sell memorable phone numbers, and ring up the profits.

Dealers are selling Personal Numbers and Freephone Numbers that are memorable combinations or that spell names - making thousands of pounds.

Call now on a number you'll never forget. And you too could cash in on this page.

07000 654321

IN ASSOCIATION WITH VODAFONE GROUP

07000 ATHENS 284367 £2,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 ARABIA 272242 £2,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BUY BMW 289289 £2,500 Call 07000 777 666
07000 DENVER 336837 £2,500 Call 07000 102 102

07000 DUSTIN 387846 £1,250 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 EDWINA 339462 £1,250 Call 07000 777 666
07000 ELINOR 354667 £1,250 Call 07000 777 666
07000 ELOISE 356473 £1,250 Ring 07000 777 666

THE PERSONAL NUMBER COMPANY
In association with Vodafone

CHOOSE AN 07000 NUMBER

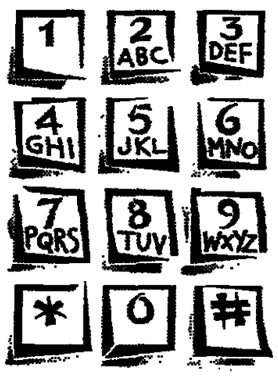
07000 Alphanumeric Numbers

07000 4 A GIFT 424438	£250
07000 4 5 STAR 457827	£250
07000 ACTRESS 228737	£250
07000 AIRMAIL 247624	£250
07000 0 ANDREW 026373	£250
07000 ARTFUL 278385	£250
07000 AWKWARD 295927	£250
07000 BEST MAN 237862	£250
07000 PASSWORD 727796	£250
07000 POSH CHAP 767424	£250
07000 SEALANT 732326	£250
07000 SHANNON 742666	£250
07000 SHIRTY 744789	£250
07000 TRUST ME 878786	£250
07000 BUY A CAR 289222	£500
07000 CLERGY 253749	£500
07000 CORNFLAKE 267635	£500
07000 CUFFLINKS 283354	£500
07000 FOOTIE 366843	£500
07000 INSTALL 467825	£500
07000 LAMINATE 526464	£500
07000 LASERJET 527375	£500
07000 DEGREE 334733	£500
07000 DOG FOOD 364366	£750
07000 FORTIM 367846	£750
07000 BMW 320 269320	£750
07000 BMW 730 269730	£750
07000 NECTAR 632827	£750
07000 BRICKY 274359	£1,000
07000 NO1 GUY 661489	£1,000
07000 PRIZES 774937	£1,000
07000 DARRYL 327795	£1,250
07000 ISOBEL 476235	£1,250
07000 PATTIE 728843	£1,250
07000 SHAVER 742837	£1,250
07000 DAPHNE 327463	£1,500
07000 REFILL 733455	£1,500
07000 CABMAN 222626	£2,500
07000 REFUND 733863	£2,500
07000 VICKIE 842543	£2,500

07000 Platinum Numbers

07000 555111	£2,500
07000 666111	£2,500
07000 999111	£2,500
07000 141414	£5,000
07000 222444	£5,000
07000 222666	£5,000
07000 222777	£5,000
07000 222888	£5,000
07000 222999	£5,000
07000 444111	£5,000
07000 444777	£5,000

...OR CREATE YOUR OWN



Simply choose six numbers from the alphanumeric keypad to create a Personal Number that's unique to you or your business. And call 07000 777 777 for its availability. Prices from £250.

07000+□□□□□□

CALL TODAY
07000 777 777



All major credit cards taken. Lines open 9-5 including today!

07000 DR DR DR 373737 £2,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 L PLATE 575283 £2,500 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 TAMARA 826272 £2,500 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)



07000 VACANT 822288 £2,500 Call 07000 777 666
07000 VOODOO 866366 £2,500 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 CHORDS 246737 £2,000 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 DEMAND 336263 £2,000 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 FINISH 348474 £2,000 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 REGGIE 734443 £2,000 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 SANDIE 726343 £2,000 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 SEXIER 739437 £2,000 Ring 07000 773 774

07000 4 A TRIM
(428746)
£750
Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 BENNIE 236643 £1,500 Call 07000 102 102
07000 BIANCA 242822 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BOLLOM 265566 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BOTANY 268269 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BUDGIE 283443 £1,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 FITTER 348937 £1,500 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 LYRICS 587427 £1,500 Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 GLENYS 453697 £1,250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 GLYNIS 456647 £1,250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 HECTOR 432867 £1,250 Call 07000 888 777
07000 HERBIE 437243 £1,250 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 IMOGEN 466438 £1,250 Call 07000 102 102
07000 INVITE 468483 £1,250 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 LARGS 1 527471 £1,250 Call 07000 LAW 999 (529999)
07000 LARRIE 527743 £1,250 Call 07000 102 102
07000 LAUNCH 528824 £1,250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 LAURIE 528743 £1,250 Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 B A SPORT
(227767)
£500
Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 LOVELY 568359 £1,250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 MARTHA 627842 £1,250 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 METERS 638377 £1,250 Call 07000 HUBRICK (482242)
07000 MINUTE 646863 £1,250 Call 07000 102 102
07000 OLD AGE 653243 £1,250 Call 07000 888 777
07000 OSWALD 676253 £1,250 Call 07000 888 777
07000 PATTIE 728843 £1,250 Call 07000 888 777
07000 RASCAL 727225 £1,250 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 REBELS 732357 £1,250 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 ROWENA 769362 £1,250 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 ZOMBIE 966343 £1,250 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 A1 CARS 212277 £1,000 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 ABBFAB 222322 £1,000 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 ARCHIE 272443 £1,000 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 ATTIRE 288473 £1,000 Ring 07000 888 777

07000 BEAUNE 232863 £750 Call 07000 102 102
07000 BENDIX 236348 £750 Ring 07000 70 70 70
07000 BMW 520 269520 £750 Call 07000 102 102
07000 BMW 635 269635 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BMW 840 269840 £750 Call 07000 102 102
07000 BRIDLE 274353 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 BUMPER 286737 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 BUY BUY 289289 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 CARKIT 227548 £750 Call 07000 888 777
07000 CHARMS 242767 £750 Call 07000 777 666

07000 FACIAL 322425 £750 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 FATIMA 328462 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 FERGAL 337425 £750 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 FREIDA 373432 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 GERTIE 437843 £750 Call 07000 102 102
07000 GLIDER 454237 £750 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 HERMIT 437648 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 HURLEY 487538 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 ICICLE 424253 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 IMELDA 463532 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 NOTICE 668423 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 OCCULT 622858 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 PANTRY 726879 £750 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 SENIOR 736467 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 SHERPA 743772 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 SHRUBS 747627 £750 Call 07000 102 102
07000 TANDOORI 826365 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 TV SETS 887387 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 TYPIST 887478 £750 Ring 07000 102 102
07000 VIOLET 846538 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 WARDEN 927336 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 BACKS 422257 £500 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 4 CHRO 424478 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 A JUMP 428867 £500 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 4 MARES 462737 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 4 A LIAR 425462 £500 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 4 A ROSE 428873 £500 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 ALPHA 3 257423 £500 Ring 07000 70 70 70
07000 ALPHA 4 257424 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 ANALOG 262564 £500 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 AURORA 287672 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BAIL ME 224563 £500 Call 07000 CHOOSE (246673)
07000 BAR MAN 227628 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BBC TV1 222881 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BBC TV2 222882 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BIGGER 244437 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BODICE 263423 £500 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 BRAINY 272489 £500 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 4 CHEST 424378 £500 Call 07000 888 777

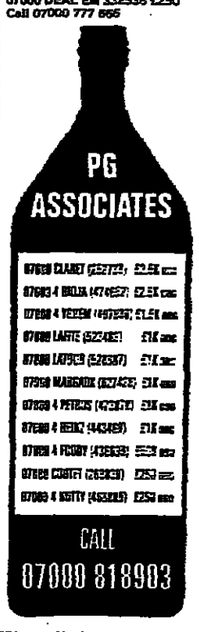


Now's the time to get your Christian Name and the first letter of your Surname before it's too late*. What an investment. Keep it forever or sell it in the future. Today it costs £295 + VAT. Tomorrow's too late...* Damon H and Jason D have already gone.

07000 - SALLY? Only £295
07000 - DAVID? Only £295
07000 - JENNY? Only £295
07000 - STEVE? Only £295
07000 - GET IN QUICK ....

Ring us with your choice of five letter name and the initial of your Surname and we'll fix you up for only £295...unless you're too late!

YOUR NUMBER ZUP COMPANY
RING 07000 888 777...NOW



07000 4 VODKA
(486352)
£450
Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 AMEX UK
(263985)
£500
Call 07000 70 70 70

07000 4 A TRIP
(428747)
£750
Call 07000 70 70 70

Choose any great number from the list below for ONLY
£250!!

07000 TOP TOTTY (887888)
07000 BURN IT (287648)
07000 BANK IT (226548)
07000 1 2 RENT (127368)
07000 CASH IN (227448)
07000 GIRLS 4 U (447524)
07000 ONE BUD (863283)
07000 BEALES (232537)
07000 BUY 4X4 (289494)
07000 BUY JAG (289524)
07000 BUY TVR (289887)
07000 US 4 MGT (874688)
07000 US 4 BMW (874289)
07000 DEAL IT (332548)
07000 2 BUY VW (228989)
07000 IF U FAT (438328)
07000 HEAR IT (432748)
07000 U R NEXT (876328)
07000 DO YOU FLY (398359)
07000 WE PRAY (937729)
07000 TO PARK (867275)
07000 R U UGLY (788459)
07000 TOP HAT (867428)
07000 ME 4 YOU (634868)
07000 ME 4 FUN (634388)
07000 ME 4 SEX (634739)
07000 SEE HER (733437)
07000 SEE HIM (733446)
07000 A 1 CHAP (212427)
07000 YOU CUT (968288)
07000 YOU 4 ME (968463)
07000 2 BUY BR (228977)
07000 TIN CAN (846226)
07000 4 SLEEP (475337)
07000 TOTTY 4 U (868884)
07000 FISH R US (347478)

07000 CHERRY 243779 3k

Why not pick your own? Call now for availability on 07000 2 SPELL (277355)

07000 171181 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 222944 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 280280 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 345600 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 355111 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 358988 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 454548 £750 Call 07000 70 70 70
07000 458567 £750 Ring 07000 773 774
07000 516261 £750 Ring 07000 777 666
07000 526263 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 747574 £750 Ring 07000 888 777
07000 818171 £750 Ring 07000 888 777

THE PERSONAL NUMBER COMPANY PLC

PERSONAL NUMBERS. AS SIMPLE AS ABC.

- A Personal Number is a telephone number that's yours for life.
- It simply re-directs all your calls to you wherever you are; home, office, mobile, restaurant, switchboard and even abroad.
- And you can personalise it. Simply choose a special combination of numbers or a set of numbers that spell a memorable name on the alphanumeric keypad.
- A memorable Personal Number will never be forgotten. So you'll never miss another call again.
- What's more, with an 07000 Personal Number you don't need a special phone, new equipment or any sort of upgrade.

07000 ALPHANUMERIC NUMBERS

07000 POST IT 767848	£5,000
07000 BRANDY 272639	£2,500
07000 BUY 4X4 289494	£2,500
07000 COGNAC 264622	£2,500
07000 OXYGEN 699436	£2,500
07000 POR 911 767911	£2,500
07000 POR 928 767928	£2,500
07000 POR 944 767944	£2,500
07000 SHERRY 743779	£2,500
07000 HORROR 467767	£2,000
07000 KUNGFU 586438	£2,000
07000 BARLEY 227539	£1,500
07000 BUTANE 288263	£1,250
07000 JANICE 526423	£1,250
07000 CALL?? 225577	£1,000
07000 CLARET 252738	£1,000
07000 ESPACE 377223	£1,000
07000 VITARA 948272	£1,000
07000 4 DIANA 434262	£750
07000 4 TURBO 488726	£750
07000 CELCON 235266	£750
07000 KANGOL 526465	£750
07000 ARTICLE 278425	£500
07000 4 CLERK 425375	£500
07000 PC GAMES 724263	£500
07000 TEL??? 835???	£500
07000 ???FAX ???329	£250
07000 ???PLC ???752	£250
07000 ???TEL ???835	£250
07000 BATH RFC 269283	£250
07000 DESKJET 337953	£250
07000 FAX??? 329???	£250
07000 FOR??? 367???	£250
07000 INSPECT 467732	£250
07000 NUCLEAR 882532	£250
07000 RACE DAY 722332	£250
07000 SCRIBE 727423	£250

07000 MEMORABLE NUMBERS

07000 000999	£5,000
07000 101101	£5,000
07000 222111	£5,000
07000 300000	£5,000
07000 334455	£5,000
07000 400000	£5,000
07000 456789	£5,000
07000 600000	£5,000
07000 700000	£5,000
07000 770770	£5,000
07000 800000	£5,000
07000 888999	£5,000
07000 900000	£5,000
07000 944944	£5,000
07000 100007	£2,500
07000 111007	£2,500
07000 206206	£2,500
07000 220022	£2,500
07000 308308	£2,500
07000 321123	£2,500
07000 348348	£2,500
07000 348355	£2,500
07000 355355	£2,500
07000 605605	£2,500
07000 200007	£1,500
07000 300007	£1,500
07000 400007	£1,500
07000 445566	£1,500
07000 500007	£1,500
07000 556677	£1,500
07000 600007	£1,500
07000 667788	£1,500
07000 669966	£1,500
07000 778899	£1,500
07000 889900	£1,500

Call now on
07000 70 70 70
Lines open Sundays and Weekdays
http://www.personal-number.co.uk

For your special number or more information on 07000 or 0321 Business Freecall Numbers call 07000 70 70 70. Office open Sundays and Weekdays.

All 07000 and 0321 telephone numbers are subject to availability. The Personal Number Company PLC only sells the numerical translation of letters required, usually up to a maximum of six numbers. In some cases seven or eight numbers can be sold, and the last number or two numbers will not be recognised on calling the number or numerical translation. Some telephone keypads in the UK may not have an alphanumeric keypad. Other telephones which do have one may not be compatible with the type for numbers sold by The Personal Number Company PLC. Details of the correct keypad can be obtained by calling 07000 70 70 70. The Personal Number Company is not responsible for any problems encountered on using the letter feature of the number only. It is recommended that when advertising names the underlying number is also featured. 07000/0321 numbers are subject to contract for a minimum period of 12 months and are subject to status. Ongoing service charges vary depending on number choice, prices vary from £3 to £100 per month. Calls to 07000 numbers are tariffed at BT 'D' rate. Calls to 0321 numbers are free. 0321 subscribers pay 12p peak, 9p off peak, per minute for incoming calls and a deposit of £500 against call charges is required. Divert to mobile calls are charged at the mobile rate. All prices quoted exclude VAT
Network services are provided by Vodafone Group.

Shares in The Personal Number Company PLC are traded on the Alternative Investment Market.

VAT payable on retail price of free meal

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Westmorland Motorway Services Ltd

Before Mr Justice Lightman

[Judgment February 21]

A service station which supplied a free meal and either cigarettes or cash in lieu to a coach driver who brought a coachload of at least 20 passengers for a minimum of 30 minutes, was assessable to value-added tax on the retail price of the cigarettes or meals supplied, and not on the cost price.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in the Chancery Division, allowing the appeal of the Commissioners for Customs and Excise from a decision of a VAT Tribunal of July 26, 1996 that VAT should be assessed only on the cost to the service station of providing the meal and the cigarettes, and remitting the matter to the tribunal. The commissioners had made an assessment on June 20, 1994 based on the retail price of the cigarettes and meals.

Mr Kenneth Parker, QC, for the Commissioners; Mr William Massey, QC, for the taxpayer.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that the present case explained why coach passengers were required to wait half an hour when the coach they were travelling on stopped at a motorway service station.

The delay arose from an arrangement between the coach driver and the service station that, in return for the driver providing a coachload of at least 20 passengers and waiting that length of time, the service station would provide the driver with a free meal and either a packet of cigarettes or money instead.

The question for the court was whether VAT was payable by the service station on the cost to the service station of providing those benefits to the driver or on the retail price which the driver would have had to pay if he bought the meal and cigarettes.

Westmorland Motorway Services Ltd operated three motorway service stations in Cumbria, where they offered a free packet of cigarettes or cash in lieu, and after March 1, 1992 additionally a free meal to any coach driver, upon identification, who brought a coach with 20 or more passengers and stayed for at least 30 minutes. Such arrangements between coach drivers and motorway service operators were common.

It was common ground that Westmorland was making a taxable supply of goods to the coach drivers in the form of cigarettes and meals. The commissioners conceded that where cash was provided in lieu of cigarettes, VAT was assessable on no greater sum than that provided.

Article 11(A) of the Sixth Council Directive 77/388/EC of May 17, 1977 on the harmonisation of the laws of the member states relating to turnover taxes: common system of value-added tax; uniform basis of assessment (OJ 1977 L145 p1) provided: "(1) The taxable amount shall be: (a) in respect of supplies of goods and services ... everything which constitutes the consideration which has been or is to be obtained by the supplier from the purchaser, the customer or a third party for supplies including subsidies directly linked to the price of such supplies..."

The question at issue was the amount of output tax for which Westmorland should account in respect of the relevant supplies, and accordingly it was necessary to focus on the consideration obtained by Westmorland and its value.

The consideration obtained for the supply to the driver of the free meal and cigarettes was the driver's act of bringing a coach with 20 or more passengers to the service station for at least 30 minutes.

The problem lay in valuing that consideration. The answer was found in two decisions of the European Court of Justice: *Naturally Yours Cosmetics Ltd v Commissioners of Customs and Excise* (Case 230/87) ([1988] ECR 6365) and *Empire Stores v Commissioners of Customs and Excise* (Case C-33/93) ([1994] ECR I-2329), reaffirmed in *Argos Distributors Ltd v Commissioners of Customs and Excise* (Case C-288/94) (*The Times* November 18, 1996, [1996] STC 1359).

The principles governing the application of the Sixth Directive to be derived from those authorities were clear.

1 The consideration had to be capable of being expressed in money.

2 If the consideration were capable of such expression, the question to be considered was whether there was some agreement, express or to be inferred, between the parties placing a monetary value on the consideration. If so, the consideration was that agreed monetary value.

3 If there was no such agreement, the value would be the value which the taxpayer attributed to the goods or services which he was seeking to obtain and corresponded to the amount which he was prepared to spend for that purpose.

If the taxpayer supplied goods the value would be the cost of obtaining those goods, and if he had purchased them the price which the taxpayer had paid for them. If the taxpayer supplied services the value would be the cost, or extra cost, to the taxpayer of providing those services.

The critical question was whether as between Westmorland and the coach driver there was an agreement, express or to be inferred, placing a monetary value on the cigarettes and meal.

The parties placed on the coach driver's services the monetary value of a packet of cigarettes and a meal, each of which had a retail price known or readily ascertainable by the coach driver.

In principle, the parties inferentially agreed the monetary value of the consideration at such retail price, as the parties were held to have agreed the monetary value of the pot of cream at its wholesale price in *Naturally Yours Cosmetics*.

That was confirmed by a consideration of the legal rights and duties of the parties if, after the coach driver had received the cigarettes and the meal, it turned out that there were only 19 passengers, or it had left before 30 minutes had expired. There could be no doubt that the coach driver would be obliged to pay the retail price of the cigarettes or meal.

The objections raised by Westmorland, that the coach driver did not know what was on the menu or the price of the meals until he had brought his coach to the service station, or the fact that he might not otherwise be a customer of Westmorland were both immaterial considerations.

Westmorland accordingly should account for output tax on the retail price of the cigarettes or meals supplied to the drivers.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise: Cartmell Shepherd, Carlisle.

Wheelchair minibus is zero-rated for tax

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Help the Aged

Before Mr Justice Lightman

[Judgment February 28]

A minibus adapted for the safe carriage of wheelchair passengers but which could accommodate seated passengers by bolting seats to the floor when the space was not required for wheelchairs was permanently adapted for the safe carriage of a handicapped person in a wheelchair within note 3(e) of group 15 in Schedule 8 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994. It was not necessary for the adaptation to be irreversible or to preclude any other use.

"Care for handicapped persons" within note 4(f) of group 15 was not restricted to health or nursing care but involved additional personal attention which a chronically sick or disabled person required and received as a result of his handicap, whether provision for physical, mental, social transport or other special needs.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in the Chancery Division, dismissing an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise from a decision of the London VAT Tribunal that the supply by Help the Aged of vehicles adapted to carry passengers in wheelchairs to three charities was zero-rated for VAT purposes.

Mr Michael Kent, QC, for the commissioners; Mr Roderick Cordara, QC, for Help the Aged.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that Help the Aged, which was a charity registered for VAT, bought unconverted transport vans, arranged their conversion into minibuses and sold the finished vehicles to charitable bodies whose activities complied with conditions and criteria laid down by Help the Aged.

The conversion involved the installation of a hydraulically operated tail lift capable of lifting all passengers whatever the degree of their disability and all wheelchair bound passengers, and the making of adaptations designed exclusively to accommodate and safely carry wheelchair borne passengers, namely special tracking fixings, wheelchair clamps, harnesses and seat belts for wheelchair borne passengers, and a wheelchair stop bar.

The minibus was convertible in the sense that wheelchair borne passengers could be accommodated in the designated areas or seats could be bolted to the floor in those areas, the bolting and seats being removable within a few minutes so as to make the space available once more for wheelchairs. Help the Aged had sold such minibuses to a number of charities, three of which had been selected as representative.

Whether the supply of vehicles to those charities was zero-rated depended on whether the minibus was included in the definition of "relevant goods" in note 3(e) and whether the charities came within the meaning of "eligible bodies" in item 5 of group 15.

It was common ground that the minibuses supplied by Help the Aged were motor vehicles substantially adapted for the safe carriage of handicapped persons within the meaning of note 3(e); the only issue was whether they were permanently adapted.

The commissioners contended that "permanently" meant that the vehicle was so adapted that the area earmarked for the wheelchair was not capable of being used as a seat for a passenger, that convertibility was incompatible with permanence and accordingly the minibuses could not qualify as "relevant goods".

In his Lordship's view note 3(e) was concerned with adaptation and not with use. The word "permanently" meant "adapted for use for the indefinite future": see the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*.

To qualify as "relevant goods", the motor vehicle had to have made to it a substantial lasting, as opposed to temporary, adaptation enabling it to be used indefinitely for the safe carriage of handicapped persons: it was unnecessary that the adaptation be either irreversible or such as precluded other use.

So long as the required adaptation was made there was no reason why the vehicle should not at the same time be adapted for use for other purposes, such as the maximum load of seated passengers. It should be borne in mind that persons who were chronically sick and disabled might not need wheelchairs.

Giving "permanently" its ordinary meaning, permanent adaptation for the safe carriage of handicapped persons in wheelchairs was totally consonant with adaptability for seated passengers.

The remaining question was whether all or any of the three charities which purchased a minibus from Help the Aged provided "care for handicapped persons" within the meaning of note 4(f).

There was no justification for limiting "care" to health or nursing care as the commissioners submitted. Provision for their special needs, whether physical, mental, social, transport or otherwise, was as much "care" for the handicapped as health care.

There was similarly no justification for limiting qualifying charitable institutions to those providing care for the handicapped as their special function or one of their special functions.

To qualify, the charity had to make a significant provision for the care of handicapped persons, but it did not matter what relationship that activity had to its other activities.

All three charities made a significant provision for the needs of handicapped person and accordingly qualified as eligible bodies. The supply of adapted minibuses to the three charities was accordingly zero-rated.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise; Wedlake Bell.

Limit to retirement relief on business assets

Plumbly and Others v Spencer (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Mr Justice Lightman

[Judgment February 5]

Retirement relief from capital gains tax on the disposal of business assets of a family company was only available if the assets disposed of had been in use for the purposes of a business carried on by the person making the disposal.

Section 69(2)(b) of the Finance Act 1985 was not to be construed so as to permit the relief on the disposal of land owned by an individual but which had been used for the purposes of a business carried on not by him but by his family company.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division dismissing an appeal by the personal representatives of Mr S. C. Harbour, deceased, from the determination of a special commissioner upholding the refusal by the inspector of taxes of a claim for retirement relief in respect of the gain arising on the disposal in 1988 of 163 acres of land at Besthorpe, Norfolk.

Section 69 of the 1985 Act, now section 163 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, provided for relief for disposals of business assets by individuals having attained the age of 60, now 55, on their retirement from a family business.

Section 69 provided: "(2) ... a disposal of business assets is (a) a disposal of the whole or part of a business, or (b) a disposal of one or more assets which at the time at which a business ceased to be carried on were in use for the purposes of that business..."

Mr Patrick Soares for the personal representatives; Mr Michael Furness for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN said that Mr Harbour had granted a lease of the land that was owned by him to a company which at all material times was a trading company and his family company and one of which he was a full-time working director.

The letting had been for use for purposes of the company's trade and it had paid rent. Within one year of the company ceasing to carry on its trade Mr Harbour had disposed of the land.

The question to be considered was whether section 69(2)(b) was applicable in respect of the disposal. The asset disposed had to be a business asset. That was the critical issue.

On the true construction of the provision, was use for the purposes of the business carried on by the company sufficient, or was it necessary that it was used for the purposes of a business of Mr Harbour himself?

The commissioner's decision had proceeded on the basis that the starting point was reading on its own the wording of section 69(2)(b) and that when so read, on its face, it required only a disposal of an asset used for the purposes of "a business" and not "a business of the individual making the disposal" and that the onus was placed on the Crown to justify reading into the subsection the words "of the individual making the disposal" or some like formula.

But that approach was flawed for it concentrated on looking at section 69(2)(b) in isolation without due regard to its context and its place in the scheme of the relevant legislation as a whole, in particular sections 69, 70 and Schedule 20 to the 1985 Act.

The starting and the finishing point was reading the provision in its context and in its place in such scheme. So read, plainly it was referring to the business of the individual making the disposal.

Section 69(2)(a) was concerned with the situation where the individual disposed of the whole or part of his business as a going concern and section 69(2)(b) with where instead of disposing of the business as a going concern, he ceased to carry on the business and sold one or more assets previously used in the business.

In short, paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 69(2) were concerned with two different scenarios, either of which might occur when the businessman decided to retire from his business: he might dispose of his business as a going concern or merely dispose of the assets used in such business.

The tax relief was rendered available in both cases. In both cases the expression "a business" was used to denote any business of the individual making the disposal.

Mr Harbour did not qualify for relief under section 69(2)(b) because the land was not used for the purposes of a business carried on by him.

Solicitors: Cameron Markby Hewitt; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Weighing relevant factors in housing application

Regina v Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte Watters

In carrying out its statutory function, under the Housing Act 1985, of securing that a reasonable preference was given to categories as defined in the Act in the selection of its tenants, a local housing authority was entitled to balance against those statutory factors such relevant factors as might properly be weighed against them.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Judge) so held on February 14 when dismissing the appeal of Helen Watters against the dismissal by Mr Justice Dyson (*The Times* June 11, 1996) of her application for judicial review of the decision of Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council, confirmed by the housing appeal panel on March 14, 1996, not to admit her to its housing waiting list.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that because section 22 of the 1985 Act required "reasonable preference" be given to the categories there defined, that envisaged that other factors might weigh against and so diminish and even nullify the preference.

Since, as was common ground, rent arrears might be taken into account by the council in the process of selecting tenants, it followed that, when in the council's judgment an applicant's rent arrears were such as to outweigh the reasonable preference that would otherwise avail him, that applicant would not be selected.

In the present case the council policy, of which the appeal process was an integral part, was sufficiently flexible to comply with the council's duty under section 22.

Fertilisation licence requirement valid in EC law

U v W (Attorney-General Intervening)

Before Mr Justice Wilson

[Judgment February 19]

Although section 28(3) of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990, which required that fertilisation services had to be provided by a licence holder, constituted a restriction upon the freedom to provide services under article 59 of the EC Treaty, nevertheless objectively valid reasons justified the restriction and therefore section 28(3) did not infringe article 59.

Mr Justice Wilson so held in the Family Division in a reserved judgment when dismissing an application by a mother, pursuant to section 27 of the Child Support Act 1991, for declarations that the respondent was the father of her twin sons by virtue of section 28(3) of the 1990 Act which conferred paternity on the unmarried partner of a woman inseminated by donor sperm where the couple were receiving treatment services together.

The couple had travelled to Rome where, after other alternatives had been explored, the woman had been inseminated by sperm from an anonymous donor. On their return to England the couple separated and the man now contended that the two requirements of section 28(3), namely treatment together and by a licence holder, were not satisfied.

Mr David Vaughan, QC and Miss Barbara Hewson for the mother; Mr Timothy Scott, QC and Mr Paul Storey for the respondent; Mr Nicholas Paines for the Attorney General.

MR JUSTICE WILSON said that section 28(3) was a unique and perhaps surprising provision; in no other area of English law could the male unmarried partner acquire parenthood along with the mother even though he was not the genetic father.

The test in section 28(3)(a) was not whether the man consented either to be deemed in law to be the father of, or to become legally responsible for the child but whether the request for that form of treatment had been made by the man and the woman as a couple: and here, on the facts and notwithstanding his absence in any physical role, it had been.

However, as treatment had taken place abroad, it had not been administered by a licence holder under the 1990 Act.

The mother submitted that the requirement of a licence constituted a restriction on the freedom to provide services within the community, thereby infringing article 59 of the EC Treaty and should be disapplied.

Clearly there was no direct restriction in that absence of a licence merely withheld the legal consequence of conferred paternity under section 28(3).

However, the recent Court of Appeal decision in *R v Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, Ex parte Blood* (*The Times* February 7, 1997) considered that the question of restriction should be answered by reference to a practical or functional criterion namely whether it substantially impeded the provision of such services.

In as much as section 28(3) would substantially incline most couples to seek treatment under licence in the United Kingdom rather than another member state, it did indeed represent a restriction on the freedom to provide services under article 59.

Nevertheless, *Säger v Dennemeyer & Co Ltd* (Case C-76/90) ([1991] ECR I-4221) had established that the freedom to provide services could be limited by rules which were justified by imperative reasons relating to the public interest of member states and which were objectively necessary to protect the recipient of the services.

Furthermore, each member state had a discretion, within community law limits, to define public policy in accordance with its own scale of values.

Here the importance of full awareness of the consequences arising from treatment together under section 28(3) and the need to have certainty in provisions affecting status, provided objectively valid and proportionate justification of the reasons for the restriction.

Therefore in requiring treatment under licence, section 28(3) did not infringe article 59 and the application for declarations of paternity would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Kitsons; Tozers; Solicitor, Department of Social Security.

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

FREE previews of *The English Patient*







Readers of *The Times* can get the hottest cinema ticket of the year FREE and enjoy a private screening of *The English Patient*, starring Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott Thomas.

We have a total of 25,000 tickets to give away for the exclusive screenings on Saturday, March 8 — the week before it opens in the UK. And there are 115 cinemas nationwide to choose from.

Nominated for 12 Oscars, the film is directed and scripted by Anthony Minghella (who also directed *Truly, Madly, Deeply*) and is distributed by Buena Vista. Based on the novel by Michael Ondaatje which won the Booker Prize in 1992, *The English Patient* is an epic film of adventure, intrigue, betrayal and love about four strangers whose diverse lives become inextricably connected.

Love discovered and betrayed: clockwise from top, Juliette Binoche; Ralph Fiennes; and Fiennes in a romantic embrace with Kristin Scott Thomas

HOW TO GET YOUR FREE TICKET

Collect the four FREE preview tokens published this week and attach them to the voucher which will appear on Thursday. Present them at one of the cinemas, listed yesterday, between 5pm Thursday, March 6 and the close of business on Friday, March 7. Each voucher, with four tokens attached, entitles you to one FREE ticket. Tickets will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The preview takes place at approx 3pm on Saturday March 8.

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CHANGING TIMES

Damages award for injury to feelings

Cleveland Ambulance National Health Service Trust v Blane

Before Judge Peter Clark, Mr J. C. Shrigley and Mrs P. Turner

[Judgment February 19]

On a complaint of action short of dismissal on grounds related to trade union membership or activities, industrial tribunals had power under section 149(2) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1992 to award compensation for injury to feelings.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held in upholding an award which included £1,000 for injury to feelings to the applicant, Steven Blane, on an appeal by his employers, Cleveland Ambulance National Health Service Trust, from a decision, promulgated on August 7, 1996, of an industrial tribunal sitting at Middlesbrough.

Section 149 of the 1992 Act provides: "(2) The amount of the compensation awarded shall be such as the tribunal considers just and equitable in all the circumstances having regard to the infringement complained of and to any loss sustained by the complainant which is attributable to the action which infringed his right."

Ms Andrea Pitt for the employers; Ms Ijeoma Omambala for the applicant.

JUDGE PETER CLARK said that in July 1995 the applicant, a qualified paramedic, complained that he had not been short-listed for a management post with his employers because of his trade union activities. That was a complaint of action short of dismissal under section 146(1) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

The industrial tribunal found the complaint well founded and, pursuant to section 149 of the Act, awarded the applicant £1,000 for injury to feelings and further declared that he was entitled to compensation for pecuniary loss representing 25 per cent of any difference in pay between the management post and his paramedic post.

It was firmly established at common law that damages for injury to feelings were not recoverable in an action for wrongful dismissal: see *Addis v Gramophone Co Ltd* ([1909] AC 488, 491). In *Norton Tool Co Ltd v Tewson* ([1972] ICR 510) the National Industrial Relations Court held that a compensatory award for unfair dismissal under the Industrial Relations Act 1971 could not include a sum in respect of injury to feelings.

In *Brassington v Cauldon Wholesale Ltd* ([1978] ICR 405) employees successfully complained that their right not to have action short of dismissal taken against them by the employer in respect of their trade union activities had been infringed.

The appeal tribunal had held that there was power to award compensation for injury to health in the shape of stress engendered by the unlawful action of the employer.

If the wording of section 149(2) of the 1992 Act had followed precisely the wording of what the current section 123(1) of the Employment Rights Act 1996, subject to the different claims being made, it would have been right to follow the line of authority beginning at common law with *Addis* and imported into the statutory law of unfair dismissal by *Tewson*.

There was, however, a significant difference: section 149(2) added the words "having regard to the infringement complained of and ..." Those words granted the industrial tribunal a power to award compensation over and above the pure pecuniary loss suffered by the applicant.

Given the scope for awards to complainants who had suffered by way of sex or race discrimination to reflect injury to feelings, there was no reason in principle why the words of the section could not extend to such an award.

There were no grounds for interfering with the quantum awarded in the present case which was well within the proper range for such awards on the facts.

By assessing the applicant's loss of the chance of promotion the tribunal had adopted the correct approach to compensation. The position was akin to solicitors' negligence cases and quite different to that in *Horson v East Berkshire Area Health Authority* ([1987] AC 750). The sole cause of the position in which the applicant found himself was the unlawful action of the employer.

Solicitors: Smith & Graham, Hartlepool; Mr Bruce Piper, Bloomsbury.

Hearsay admissible in disqualification

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Ashcroft and Others

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Hutchison

[Judgment February 26]

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry could rely on hearsay evidence obtained from an office holder in support of an application by him for a disqualification order under section 7 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the secretary of state from an order of Judge Cooke, sitting as a judge of the High Court in the Leeds district registry on February 28, 1996, striking out passages in an affidavit prepared by a liquidator in proceedings for disqualification orders under section 7 of the 1986 Act against John Kevin Ashcroft, Colin Graham Fynlo Corlett and Victoria Lilian Gay Sutcliffe.

Mr Mark Cawson for the secretary of state; Mr Edward Bannister, QC, for the first defendant.

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT said the case concerned a company called Survival Group Ltd. The name was singularly inappropriate, for it went into voluntary liquidation and was then compulsorily wound up. Joint liquidators were appointed who were office holders within the meaning of section 7(3).

One of the two joint liquidators reported to the secretary of state that Mr Ashcroft and other executive directors had been guilty of conduct which made them unfit to be concerned in the management of a company.

The secretary of state had applied to the court under section 7 for a disqualification order, relying in part on an affidavit sworn by the liquidator.

Mr Ashcroft had successfully applied to the court to strike out parts of that affidavit as hearsay. A number of similar cases were awaiting the outcome of the secretary of state's appeal against that striking out.

The court had to be satisfied by credible and admissible evidence that the director's conduct made him unfit.

In *In re Rex Williams Leisure plc (In administration)* (*The Times* May 4, 1994; [1994] Ch 350) the court held that statements obtained by the secretary of state under section 447 of the Companies Act 1985 were admissible in disqualification proceedings under section 8 of the 1986 Act.

The judge had held that *Rex Williams Leisure* was concerned solely with applications under section 8 and had refused to extend it to section 7. In his Lordship's judgment there was no material distinction between the two kinds of case. The appeal would be allowed.

Lord Justice Hutchison agreed and Lord Justice Hirst delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Dibb Lupton Broomhead, Leeds; Addleshaw Sons & Latham, Manchester.

Hope springs eternal for stragglers in the pack

IN ASSOCIATION WITH Sky Sports Interactive



Le Tissier's superbly-struck volley against Newcastle United will have made some ITF selectors very happy

OPPORTUNITIES to win prizes in Interactive Team Football continue even for those who have only recently joined the game. The winner this week is a recent entrant, with no chance of winning the overall £50,000 prize — he is the 205,880th-placed selector — but with 49 points, Mr J. Bartlett, of Ipswich, wins £250 with his team, McClean's XI.

Manager of the month for February is Mr J. Dwyer, of Whyteleafe, Surrey, who scored 137 points with Dwyer's Tipsters. Mr Dwyer is equal 150th in the overall competition, and is still in contention for the main prize. His selected XI has a judicious mixture of free-scoring Scottish and English-based players, including Pressley, of Dundee United, and the Wimbledon pairing of Gayle and Earle.

The overall leader remains Mr G. Foster, who maintains his good lead over John Hunt. Mr Foster's team, Sophie And Sam, has a 13-point advantage of Mr Hunt's Taunton D team, which is on the point of being overtaken by one of Mr J. Brown's "Nobby" teams. Yet there is still time for others to make up the ground — the early-season leader, Mr J. Staszkiewicz, is now equal 106th.

You can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes by using the ITF transfer system, which allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 866 968 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

☐ ***All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.***

CORRECTION: The data processed for the match between Raith Rovers and Motherwell on February 18 was incorrect. Scott Y. Thomson, player No 12301, should have had nine points deducted, while Scott Thomson, player No 42304, should not have had any points added. The overall totals are correct in the player listings today.

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

IN

40507	Phil O'Donnell	Celtic	£2.50m
50206	Nicolas Anelka	Arsenal	£3.00m
51605	Steve Guppy	Leicester City	£2.00m

OUT

32805	Kevin Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	£0.50m
41103	John Ebbrell	Everton	£1.50m

LOANED PLAYERS

S Mautone (West Ham to Reading, one week); V Bartram (Arsenal to Wolverhampton, three weeks); A Miller (Middlesbrough to West Bromwich, three weeks); P Evans (Leeds to Bradford, one month)

Loan periods subject to fluctuation

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

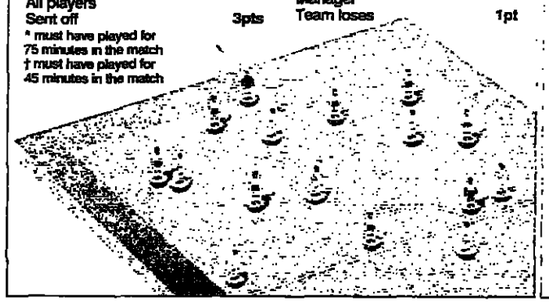
POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		Striker	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	All players	
Saves penalty	1pt	Appearance†	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		Manager	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 44 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selectors PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 50p per minute. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

Player out ..... Player code

Club .....

Player in .....

Club .....

ENTER A NEW TEAM TODAY

THERE ARE BIG PRIZES TO BE WON EVERY WEEK AND EVERY MONTH

The ITF Manager of the Week and the Manager of the Month are up for grabs from now until the end of the season. Enter a team today for your chance to be a winner in 1997. The Manager of the Week or Month can be won by any team no matter where it is in the league, the prize for the Manager of the Week or Month simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one week or month.

The prize for the Manager of the Week is £250 cash, plus a £250 Sports Gift Voucher for an amateur football team in your community — as nominated by you. The Manager of the Month will receive £1,000 cash.

Enter today by following the instructions below.

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1. You must use a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone).
2. Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders, 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.
3. Do not spend more than £35 million.
4. Do not choose more than two individuals (2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one football club.
5. Once you have chosen your team, call the entry line, above, and follow these step-by-step instructions.

a) You must tap in (not speak) the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your 11 chosen players and your manager.

b) You must speak the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) your name, address, with postcode, and daytime telephone number.

c) Finally, you will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number and your chosen team as no postal notification will be sent.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH Sky Sports

See Sky Text, page 118

NB. Any new team will only score points on future games.

0891 calls cost 50p per minute. Your call will cost approximately double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being more than one Manager of the Week or Month, the winner will be chosen at random. All ITF rules apply, a copy of which will be made available on request.

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



Calls cost 50p per minute.

Call the ITF checkline on
0891 884 643
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

THE LEADING 250 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL GAME

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	640
2	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	627
3	Nobby 4	(J Brown)	625
4	Nobby	(J Brown)	622
5	Jones Boys Three	(M Jones)	619
6	AB 4	(A Boyland)	616
7	Beeston Celtic	(B McGivern)	611
8	Nobby 33	(J Brown)	609
9	Daggers	(V Cox)	608
10	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	607
11=	Edmo Utd	(D Edmondson)	601
11=	Nobby 32	(J Brown)	601
11=	Nobby 29	(J Brown)	601
11=	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	601
15=	Brain's Team	(B Howes)	600
15=	John Hunt Taunton G	(J Hunt)	600
17	Turner's Earners 5	(P Turner)	599
18=	Pin Ups Two	(P Tusler)	597
18=	Jones Boys Eight	(M Jones)	597
20=	Jabberwocky	(P A Amoss)	596
20=	Bob's Boys 2	(R Calder)	596
20=	Nobby 22	(J Brown)	596
20=	Nobby 21	(J Brown)	596
24=	Nonchalant AFC 3	(R J Ward)	591
24=	Turner's Earners 3	(P Turner)	591
24=	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	591
27	Where's Ray Gone?	(P Fromm)	590
28	Icarus	(B Wells)	585
29	Bladerunners	(P Walters)	583
30=	You're Not Very Well	(R Laskowild)	582
30=	Nobby 23	(J Brown)	582
30=	Hunter's Mob	(C Hunter)	582
33=	Jones Boys One	(M Jones)	581
33=	12 Angry Men	(D Cook)	581
33=	Turner's Earners 6	(P Turner)	581
33=	John Hunt Taunton C	(J Hunt)	581
37	Partick Bilbao 3	(J Hamilton)	580
38	John Hunt Taunton E	(J Hunt)	579
39=	Jones Boys Sky	(M Jones)	577
39=	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	577
39=	Nobby 25	(J Brown)	577
39=	Nobby 12	(J Brown)	577
43=	Storm	(P Mills)	575
43=	Always Portugal 1	(V Guimaraes)	575
43=	Nobby 7	(J Brown)	575
46	Nobby 14	(J Brown)	574
47=	Uni Boys Utd 1	(B Gardiner)	573
47=	Nobby J	(J Brown)	573
49	Thom Foolery FC	(M Horan)	572
50=	Teddy Three	(B Bear)	571
50=	Tulip's Tops	(D Tulip)	571
50=	Noah's Ark	(G P Dolan)	571
50=	Raj Is Back To Kill 5	(R Gohil)	571
54=	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	570
54=	Team C	(A Lone)	570
56=	Inter The Stand	(M Ward)	567
56=	Scholes For Goals	(K Booth)	567
56=	Brainbows United	(G Weiss)	567
56=	Elsinore United	(P Leader)	567
56=	Nobby 20	(J Brown)	567
61	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	566
62	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	565
63	Bubwith Utd 5	(M Larcombe)	564
64=	Gestalt	(R Rowe)	563
64=	Turner's Earners 4	(P Turner)	563
64=	Afc	(M Baber)	563
67=	BCFC 1998	(J Bithell)	562
67=	A	(M Corless)	562
67=	JJB Sports	(A Bates)	562
70	Enid Four	(J Feather)	561
108=	Skyforest	(A Burton)	545
113=	Concrete Banana	(S Mingle)	544
113=	John Hunt Taunton B	(J Hunt)	544
115=	It's About Revenge C	(R Gohil)	543
115=	Star Chamber	(M MacMillan)	543
115=	Old Cameronians	(R J Brown)	543
115=	Bob's Boys 5	(R Calder)	543
119=	DJS 2	(D Senton)	542
119=	Def Con 3	(M Peck)	542
119=	Mars FC	(M Baber)	542
119=	Midfield Magic	(J Pregon)	542
119=	Airstir	(I Fyfe)	542
119=	Man City Free Zone	(D Ingham)	542
125=	Enid 2	(J Hagger)	541
125=	Come On You Rocks	(no name)	541
125=	Roberts-Team 1	(M Roberts)	541
125=	Goaldiggers	(D Curzon)	541
129=	Caroline D	(A Luckhurst)	540
129=	Yahboysir	(G Davidson)	540
131	Paradox Eagles	(S Abbott)	539
132	Simba's Dream	(C A Kitchen)	538
133=	Orvieto Classico	(J Bradshaw)	537
133=	Crooky Boys	(R Crook)	537
133=	The Dummies 1	(D Shiels)	537
136=	Botak United 1	(J Pull)	536
136=	AJK	(K Hughes)	536
138=	Rock Bottom	(E O'Gorman)	535
138=	Inter Outers	(R Johnson)	535
138=	Ebbeys 1st XI	(S Baldrick)	535
138=	CUOK	(G Weiss)	535
138=	Totted Five	(E Kisby)	535
138=	Xpat Missiles	(M Jackson)	535
138=	S Gill Taunton A	(S Gill)	535
138=	John Hunt Taunton A	(J Hunt)	535
146=	Alancia FC	(A Stilliano)	533
146=	Murray's Mates	(D Anderson)	533
146=	Inter The Net	(M Ward)	533
146=	Misfits	(R Lockyer)	533
150	The Instructors	(K Cunion)	532
151=	No Midfield	(J B Portwood)	531
151=	Demolition Men	(J Murray)	531
153=	Dinamo Moscow	(D Wilson)	530
153=	Infinity George	(M Robson)	530
155	4 4 2	(K Browne)	529
156=	Dave's First XI	(D Quibell)	528
156=	Dwyer's Tipsters	(J Dwyer)	528
156=	Oct95-ITF Champ!	(M Stedden)	528
156=	Daniels Seishans	(V Cox)	528
160=	Patel One	(P Patel)	527
160=	PJB Rovers	(P J Butler)	527
160=	Caroline C	(S A Luckhurst)	527
160=	Caroline A	(A Luckhurst)	527
160=	Holstenites	(D Blair)	527
160=	Mmm Fantasy Leaguers	(M Madden)	527
160=	Dynamo Hibs	(S Miller)	527
160=	Waternish FC	(M Kirkwood)	527
160=	Doppelgangereutd	(J Whaling)	527
160=	Farr Academicals	(A Kirkwood)	527
170=	Papadopoulos Utd	(A Papadopoulos)	526
170=	Fendon United	(E Cowen)	526
170=	1970 Jr FC	(J Ross)	526
170=	Hisham's Haggis	(H A Rahim)	526
170=	Top Banana	(M Bottomley)	526
170=	Powerage	(I Doughty)	526
176=	Alice	(I Pigeon)	525
176=	Cookie's Gunners	(S Cook)	525
176=	Bob Hope And No Hope	(T Blythe)	525
176=	Sally In A Tiswas	(K James)	525
180=	Shot On Sight 2	(P Goldstraw)	524
180=	Langaller Lads	(N Finch)	524
180=	Lynne's Lions	(L Hioms)	524
180=	Buggie Navvies	(D Banks)	524
180=	Foxy	(M Fox)	524
180=	Vat3	(K Howson)	524
180=	Football Junkies	(J Melling)	524
180=	Drabx5	(D Edbrookestainer)	524
180=	C	(B Poole)	524
189	The Great Dane	(K Booth)	523
190=	Lewis Boys A	(D Lewis)	522
190=	Cholm Chix 69	(C Scarlet)	522
190=	Celtic Fowlers	(G Thomas)	522
190=	Bubwith Utd 3	(M Larcombe)	522
190=	Peanuts Team 1	(S Parnham)	522
190=	Lloydy's Barge	(D Goodwin)	522
190=	JG18	(J W Goody)	522
190=	LFC Champs 96-97	(B Fazakerley)	522
198=	Porcelain Dogs	(A Ibison)	521
198=	The Loggers	(C Wright)	521
198=	Sooty's Puppets II	(E G Ryan)	521
198=	Bunnet Bhoys	(A Sharpe)	521
198=	March Pass	(M McGovern)	521
203=	Sam Shanks	(S Shankar)	520
203=	Le Boeufeeters	(J Roebuck)	520
203=	Rams 2 Slaughter	(J Staszkiewicz)	520
203=	Sucharita	(R Keenan)	520
203=	DRS Select XI 2	(D Swinburne)	520
208=	EJK's Unleashed	(E J Kitchen)	519
208=	Triple Top Tan	(P Bailey)	519
208=	Das Boot	(D A Sutton)	519
208=	Shack Attack	(R Shackleton)	519
208=	Graham's Bungers	(G Watson)	519
208=	Vat1	(K Howson)	519
208=	A5	(K Farhall)	519
215=	Ruud's Sexy Eleven	(T Eden)	518
215=	Flying Pigs	(M Macmillan)	518
215=	Caught Lucky	(C Wright)	518
215=	Twelve Just Men	(W Evans)	518
215=	Bung Ho!	(G Watson)	518
215=	Lesley's Legmen	(L Michaelis)	518
215=	Nellie's Heroes	(I Fox)	518
222=	Raj Is Back To Kill 7	(R Gohil)	517
222=	Raj Is Back To Kill 8	(R Gohil)	517
222=	The Dansters	(C C Vevers)	517
225=	JS August Monthly 1	(J Swirles)	516
225=	Diplomatic Risk	(G Prichard)	516
225=	Solid Saints	(P Ridout)	516
225=	Charlie's Angles	(C J Yates)	516
225=	Aaa	(T Mills)	516
225=	Kingsbury Tn 1	(D F King)	516
231=	Bacardi Boys	(M Woodley)	515
231=	AC Cambridge	(L Hoe)	515
231=	Byzantine Bricks	(S Houghton)	515
231=	St Bartholomew's	(J M Bartholomew)	515
231=	Teddy Bears	(P K Stevenson)	515
231=	Always Portugal 4	(V Guimaraes)	515
231=	Robzteam2	(R Preston)	515
238=	Davsio Unt 1	(D Sloan)	514
238=	Steve's Aces	(S Brook)	514
238=	Rubella	(T Wylie)	514
238=	Jack's Nightmare	(N J Lane)	514
238=	Bumble Villa	(N Bee)	514
238=	What Ford Splash	(N P Lewis)	514
238=	Best Defence	(J Pregon)	514
245=	Fairfield Dons	(R Yates)	513
245=	Gauntlet FC	(C J Eldred)	513
245=	Grafton Willows	(R J Brown)	513
245=	Red Star Belgravia	(R Keenan)	513
245=	Will's Wanderers	(W Cheung)	513
245=	Ajaxpool	(C Strachan)	513

NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting to tackle ears of TV violence

Security review

Pollution deal

Marriage for girl

Murder charges named

ELL
I'VE GOT NUMBER ONE.
4 724691

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	-3	-11
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	+33
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	+5	-4
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	+5	+15
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+19
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+5	+8
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+4
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	0	-1
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	+10	+31
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	0	-27
10603	F Grodas	Chelsea	3.00	0	+1
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-10	-23
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0	0
10802	R Hoult	Derby County	1.00	-6	-23
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	+4
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0	-10
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	-3	-47
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	-3	-25
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	0	+4
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	-4	-17
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-4	-30
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-37
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United	1.50	0	+5
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0	0
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	+5	+24
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	-1	-7
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	-1	-24
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	-1	+32
11702	A Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-1	+5
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	0	+5
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-20
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-23
11903	B Roberts	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-2
11904	M Schwarzer	Middlesbrough	2.00	-5	-5
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	+4	-22
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00	-1	-11
12102	P Srnicek	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	-32
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	-2
12203	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75	+5	+5
12301	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-37
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	-4	+35
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	-1	+9
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	0	-28
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	0	+2
12604	M Taylor	Southampton	1.00	+10	+3
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	-1	-18
12803	A Coton	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	-8	-15
12802	E Baardsen	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.00	-6	-27
12902	S Mautone	West Ham United	0.50	0	+5
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+7
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0



Minto's own goal against Derby County, after scoring at the other end, meant that he ended up in debit for the week

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+8
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	+3	+29
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+3	+35
20203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.00	+1	+3
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	+1	+32
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+49
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0
20304	P King	Aston Villa	0.25	0	0
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+35
20401	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+4	+26
20402	G le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+3	+30
20403	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+4	+24
20404	G Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+2
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	+4	+35
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	+6	+18
20601	D Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00	+4	+16
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	+2	+6
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	0	-1
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	-8
20703	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.00	0	-6
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	-4	+11
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	0	+10
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0	+4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	+4	+48
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	+4	+38
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0	+7
21001	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	0	-4
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	-1	-8
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	0	-4
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	0	+14
20603	T Phelan	Everton	2.00	-2	-2
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	-1	+13
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	-1	+14
21202	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	0	+13
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	-1	-1
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	0	+12
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	-13
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0	+36
21502	A Dorigo	Leeds United	2.50	0	+11
21504	G Halle	Leeds United	1.00	+4	+22
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	0	+6
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	0	+6
21604	F Rolling	Leicester City	0.25	0	0
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	0
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
21703	S I Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50	0	+50
21801	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.00	+1	+34
21802	G Neville	Manchester United	3.00	0	+31
21803	P Neville	Manchester United	3.00	-1	+1
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	-8	-13
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-1
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-1
21905	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	0	-1
21906	V Kinder	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-3
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	+3	+5
22101	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+1
22102	S Watson	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+17
22103	R Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+6
22104	J Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+7
22201	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00	+3	+14
22202	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+3	+8
22203	A I Hasland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	+4	+21
22204	N Jerkan	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+4	0
22301	P Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75	0	-8
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-8
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	-1	+36
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0	0
22501	C Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+28
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+29
22503	C Nicol	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+13
22504	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+11
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
22601	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	+4	-3
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	+8	-2
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	+5	+2
22701	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	-1	+16
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	0	+4
22703	G Rall	Sunderland	0.25	0	+8
22704	J Eriksson	Sunderland	1.50	0	-1
22801	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	-3	-3
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	-3	+12
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	+10
22804	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
22805	S Carr	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	-3	-5
22901	J Dicks	West Ham United	4.00	+3	+18
22902	T Breacker	West Ham United	1.00	-2	+1
22903	K Rowland	West Ham United	1.00	0	-3
22904	M Bowen	West Ham United	1.00	-2	+2
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+9
23002	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	+2	+12
23003	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	+2	+26
23004	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	+4	+2
23006	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	+2	+37

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30101	B Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00	-1	-4
30102	C Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50	-1	+1
30103	A Kombouare	Aberdeen	2.50	+2	+5
30201	A Adams	Arsenal	4.00	0	+30
30202	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	0	+33
30203	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	+4	+35
30205	S Marshall	Arsenal	1.00	+4	+8
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	+4	+30
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+56
30304	C Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+19
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+24
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+4	+33
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30404	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+2
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	+3	+31
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	+8	+33
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	+4	+17
30504	B O'Neil	Celtic	3.00	0	+2
30505	E Annoni	Celtic	3.00	+3	+3
30601	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	0	+1
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	+5	+25
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	+2	-6
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	-2	+2
30606	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+10
30701	L Daish	Coventry City	2.00	0	+5
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	-4	+7
30704	G Breen	Coventry City	1.50	-3	0
30705	A Evtushok	Coventry City	1.50	-2	-2
30801	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50	-2	-4
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30303	P McGrath	Derby County	2.50	0	+6
30803	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	-2	+12
30804	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	0	-4
30901	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	+4	+51
31001	M Millar	Dunfermline	0.75	-1	-1
31002	I den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75	0	-17
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	-1	+13
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	-1	+10
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	+1	+9
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	-1	+19
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	-1	+25
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	0	+4
30902	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	0	+7
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	-3
32302	S Dennis	Hibernian	1.00	0	-19
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-3
31402	R Montgomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	0
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	+3	+23
31502	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+2
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	+4	+24
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31505	R Molenaar	Leeds United	2.00	+4	+15
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	-1	+6
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	0	+9
31603	P Kaamark	Leicester City	0.50	0	+7
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	-2	+4
31605	M Elliott	Leicester City	1.50	+6	+4
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0	+24
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	0	+35
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	0	+14
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	0	+30
31706	B Kvarme	Liverpool	2.00	0	+9
31801	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.50	0	+9
31802	D May	Manchester United	3.00	0	+28
31803	R Johnsen	Manchester United	2.50	-1	+24
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-9
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	-3	-12
31903	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-10
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-4
31905	G Festa	Middlesbrough	1.50	-3	-3
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	+4	-2
32002	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	+4	+10
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+18
32102	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+16
32201	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00	+3	+11
32202	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+4	+15
32203	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-5
32303	D Craig	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	-4
32304	G Mitchell	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	0
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	0	+57
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	-2	+16
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	-1	+31
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	-1	+10
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+11
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+32
32503	B Linighan	Sheffield Wednesday	0.25	0	0
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	0	-16
32602	A Neilson	Southampton	1.00	+7	+3
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	+4	-3
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	+8	-6
32605	U van Gobbel	Southampton	1.50	+3	-19
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	0	+23
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	0	+10
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	0	+22
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-3	+12
31702	J Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50	0	+1
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	-3	+9
32803	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
32805	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
32806	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
32807	R Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0	-1
32901	S Bilic	West Ham United	2.50	0	+8
32902	M Rieper	West Ham United	2.50	0	+8
32903	S Potts	West Ham United	2.00	-2	-4
32904	R Hall	West Ham United	1.50	0	0
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50	-2	0
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	+2	+17
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	0	+14
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40101	D Windass	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+32
40102	S Glass	Aberdeen	3.00	+1	+17
40103	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50	+1	+7
40104	I Kiriakov	Aberdeen	2.50	0	+28
40105	T Tzvetanov	Aberdeen	0.50	0	+21
40201	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	+2	+26
40202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	0	+53
40203	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	0	+24
40204	G Helder	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
40205	I Selley	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
40208	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.00	+2	+32
40209	R Garde	Arsenal	2.00	0	+5
40210	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00	+2	+4
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	4.00	+2	+25
40302	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.50	+2	+42
40303	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	+4	+30
40304	G Farrelly	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
40306	S Curcic	Aston Villa	3.50	0	+21
40401	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+2	+35
40402	L Bohlnen	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	+2	+27
40403	G Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+18
40404	W McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+12
40405	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+2	+39
40406	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	+1	+4
40407	G Donis	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	0	+16
40408	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+5
40409	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
40501	P McStay	Celtic	3.00	0	+17
40502	A Thom	Celtic	2.50	+2	+25
40503	S Donnelly	Celtic	2.50	+1	+26
40504	P Grant	Celtic	1.50	+1	+23
40505	P di Canio	Celtic	3.00	+8	+51
40506	D Hannah	Celtic	1.50	+2	+9
40601	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	+9
40602	D Wise	Chelsea	3.00	+2	+29
40604	C Burley	Chelsea	2.00	0	+25
40605	E Newton	Chelsea	2.00	+1	+17
40607	D Rocastle	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
40608	R di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00	+2	+45
40609	J Morris	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
40701	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	0	+31
41501	G McAllister	Coventry City	5.50	+2	+49
40702	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	+2	+27
40703	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+30
40704	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	+1	+29
40705	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	0	+26
40706	M Isaias	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
40707	W Boland	Coventry City	0.25	0	0
40708	M O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
40801	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.00	+4	+43
40802	P Simpson	Derby County	1.50	0	+3
40803	R van der Laan	Derby County	1.50	+3	+16
40804	D Powell	Derby County	1.00	+2	+22
40805	S Flynn	Derby County	0.75	0	+12
40807	G Rowett	Derby County	0.50	+2	+28
40809	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50	+2	+30
40901	G McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00	+1	+27
40902	R Winters	Dundee United	1.50	+5	+49
40903	G Johnson	Dundee United	1.00	0	0
42003	J Dolan	Dundee United	1.00	+3	+22
42303	J McInally	Dundee United	0.75	0	+19
40904	D Bowman	Dundee United	0.75	0	+21
40905	A Benneker	Dundee United	0.50	0	+2
41001	H French	Dunfermline	1.00	+1	+37
41002	C Robertson	Dunfermline	1.00	+1	+29
41003	A Smith	Dunfermline	0.75	0	+41
41004	D Fleming	Dunfermline	0.50	+3	+23
41102	G Speed	Everton	4.00	0	+55
41103	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	0	+7
41104	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	0	+25
41106	A Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+11
41108	C Thomsen	Everton	2.00	0	+4
41202	A McManus	Hearts	1.50	0	+7
41203	S Fulton	Hearts	1.00	+1	+27
41302	P McGinlay	Hibernian	1.50	0	+28
41303	G Love	Hibernian	0.75	0	+9
41305	I Cameron	Hibernian	0.75	0	+10
41401	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	+25
41402	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	+24
41403	M Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	0
41404	J Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	+11
41502	L Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00	+1	+46
41503	A Gray	Leeds United	2.50	0	+1
41504	C Palmer	Leeds United	2.00	+1	+24
41505	R Wallace	Leeds United	1.50	0	+29
41805	L Sharpe	Leeds United	3.50	+4	+37
41506	I Harte	Leeds United	1.00	+1	+18
41507	M Ford	Leeds United	0.50	0	+19
41508	A Couzens	Leeds United	0.50	0	+8
41509	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50	0	+2
41510	M Jackson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+8
41601	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	+1	+23
41602	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	+1	+25
41603	S Taylor	Leicester City	2.00	+1	+20
41604	J Lawrence	Leicester City	0.25	0	+2
40606	M Izzet	Leicester City	1.00	+1	+34
41701	S McManaman	Liverpool	7.00	+1	+46
41702	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	+1	+39
41703	J Redknapp	Liverpool	4.00	+1	+18
41704	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	+1	+46
41705	M Thomas	Liverpool	2.50	0	+33
41706	M Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
41707	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	0	+23
41801	R Giggs	Manchester United	7.00	+1	+39
41802	R Keane	Manchester United	4.50	0	+15
41803	D Beckham	Manchester United	4.00	+1	+50
41804	N Butt	Manchester United	3.50	0	+27
41806	B McClair	Manchester United	1.50	0	+8
41807	T Cooke	Manchester United	1.00	0	0
41808	B Thornley	Manchester United	1.00	0	+1
41809	S Davies	Manchester United	0.50	0	0
41810	J Cruyff	Manchester United	2.50	+1	+16
41811	K Poborsky	Manchester United	4.00	+3	+23
41901	Emerson	Middlesbrough	3.50	+1	+22
41902	Juninho	Middlesbrough	3.50	+1	+41
41903	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+15
41905	A Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00	+1	+5
41906	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	1.00	+2	+27
41908	C Liddle	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+6
41909	B Robson	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	+1
41910	P Stamp	Middlesbrough	0.50	+1	+17
42001	C McCart	Motherwell	2.00	0	+13
42002	J Philliben	Motherwell	1.00	+2	+13
42004	J Hendry	Motherwell	0.75	0	+2
42005	S Valikarri	Motherwell	3.00	+1	+2
42101	D Ginola	Newcastle United	5.50	+1	+20
42102	R Lee	Newcastle United	5.50	+1	+39
42103	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.50	+1	+24
42104	D Batty	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+21
42105	L Clark	Newcastle United	3.00	+1	+19
42201	I Woan	Nottingham Forest	4.50	0	+30
42202	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	0	+2
42203	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+2	+9
42204	C Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+20
42205	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	+21
42301	T Rougier	Raith Rovers	2.00	0	+30
42302	D Lennon	Raith Rovers	1.00	0	+39
41304	A Millen	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	+23
42304	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	+27
42401	P Gascoigne	Rangers	7.00	0	+58
42402	B Laudrup	Rangers	5.00	+2	+57
42403	S McCall	Rangers	2.00	0	+9
42404	T Steven	Rangers	1.50	0	+7
42405	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	+1	+50
42501	R Blinker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+12
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+2	+41
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+3	+29
42506	M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42507	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
42508	S Oakes	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+7
42509	W Collins	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	+13
42510	O Trustfull	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+13
42511	B Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	+1	+22
42601	J Magilton	Southampton	2.50	+3	+31
42604	B Venison	Southampton	1.00	0	0
42606	D Hughes	Southampton	0.50	0	+1
42906	R Slater	Southampton	1.00	+2	+9
42607	M Oakley	Southampton	0.50	0	+22
42608	P Tisdale	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42609	M Robinson	Southampton	0.25	0	+6
42611	E Berkovic	Southampton	1.00	+3	+23
42701	M Gray	Sunderland	2.50	+1	+31
42702	S Agnew	Sunderland	1.50	0	+16
42703	A Rae	Sunderland	1.50	0	+10
42704	P Bracewell	Sunderland	0.75	+1	+34
42705	M Smith	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
42801	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	5.50	+2	+12
42802	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+23
42803	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	+2	+33
42804	J Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+2
42805	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+2	+34
42806	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+3
42809	A Nielsen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+31
42902	I Bishop	West Ham United	2.00	+2	+28
42903	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	-1	+33
42904	D Williamson	West Ham United	1.50	0	+17
42905	J Moncur	West Ham United	1.50	+1	+16
42907	S Lazaridis	West Ham United	0.25	0	+11
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	4.00	+3	+56
43002	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	0	+36
43003	M Gayle	Wimbledon	2.00	+1	+56
43004	V Jones	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+31
43005	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50	+3	+42
43006	S Castledine	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
43007	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.25	+3	+6
50101	S Booth	Aberdeen	4.50	+1	+11
50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+6
50103	W Dodds	Aberdeen	5.00	0	+33
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.00	+2	+57
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.00	+3	+33
50205	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
50301	D Yorke

NEWS

Tap water at risk from parasite

■ Tap water is increasingly threatened with contamination by a parasite which causes sickness as water companies try to maintain supplies after two years of drought, experts said.

Many companies are dropping pressure to reduce leaks and this increases the risk of *cryptosporidium* penetrating the water network from the soil. The news comes as 300,000 people in Hertfordshire and north London were told to boil tap water after an outbreak of the infection ..... Pages 1, 2

Bishop to marry divorcée

■ The Bishop of Birmingham, the Right Rev Mark Santer, 60, announced that he is to marry a divorcée who was a friend of his first wife, Henriette, who died three years ago from cancer. Sabine Bird, 58, is a probation worker. The ceremony will be at a register office in late spring ..... Page 1

Upbeat Clarke

Kenneth Clarke tried to dispel deepening Conservative Party gloom with the claim that Britain was "fighting fit" and facing the best economic prospects for a generation ..... Pages 1, 8, 16, 27

Legal aid curbed

A crackdown on the £1.5 billion legal aid scheme was announced by the Government aimed at stopping lawyers from recommending legal aid in far-fetched cases ..... Page 2

Elvis soap case

Sid Shaw, a former Petticoat Lane barrow boy, took on America's Presley industry in the High Court over the right to sell Elvis embossed soap and perfume in Britain ..... Page 3

Monaghan bomb

A bomb was discovered outside Sinn Fein offices in Monaghan in the Irish Republic. Security sources blamed the Ulster Volunteer Force ..... Page 4

Priest wins support

Parishioners rallied to the black woman Anglican priest facing dismissal with some arguing that they would prefer to do without their bishop ..... Page 5

In-house tutors

Fifth-formers at a Cleveland school are being paid £2.50 an hour to act as "peer tutors" and help fellow students to prepare for their GCSEs ..... Page 6

Cooking up a storm

Angela Sirdar, who tried to become a chef in the Royal Marines, was told that only men were allowed to cook meals. She challenged the policy at an industrial tribunal ..... Page 7

Youth crime pledge

Jack Straw said that current legislation which assumed that youngsters aged between 10 and 13 were "incapable of evil" was a medieval law which Labour would reverse ..... Pages 8, 17

Diplomatic salesmen

The Prime Minister's efficiency unit is considering a plan to charge companies which use the lobbying powers of British ambassadors to secure lucrative contracts abroad ..... Pages 9, 17

New homes for Jews

The Israeli Defence Minister approved plans to build thousands of Jewish homes on occupied Arab territory to the north of Jerusalem ..... Page 10

Kohl takes heart

A good performance by his Christian Democrats in Sunday's local elections has encouraged Helmut Kohl to stand for re-election in October 1998 ..... Page 10

British guns for US

The US Marine corps is about to order howitzers worth several hundred million dollars from British companies in partnership with American firms ..... Page 12

Gene scientists join the fight on flab

■ The days of beanpoles exasperating plumper types by eating mounds of red meat and deep pan pizza with no discernible change in waistline may soon be over. A team of Californian scientists claims to have isolated a single gene, known as UCP2, that stops some people becoming fat whatever they eat and could be made to help others to lose weight ..... Page 1



Italian soldiers watch a patrol boat off the Puglian coast as they prepare to stop illegal immigrants from Albania. Pages 1, 11, 16

BUSINESS

Forward Group: The chairman of the electronics company will make a personal profit of £15 million after accepting a £129 million takeover bid from the American company PCB Investments ..... Page 27

Economy: Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, strongly suggested that he will continue to resist higher interest rates in the run-up to the general election ..... Page 27

Telecoms: Oftel ordered British Telecom to scrap an advertising campaign aimed at clawing back former customers ..... Page 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 1.2 points to close at 4307.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 98.3 to 98.0 after a fall from $1.6290 to $1.6197 and from DM2.7494 to DM2.7425 ..... Page 30

SPORT

Football: England will play South Africa for the first time in an international at Old Trafford in May as a warm-up for the World Cup match against Poland ..... Page 52

Cricket: Discussions that involve players' representatives and senior administrators are set to open the way for a properly regulated transfer system in England ..... Page 49

Motor rallying: The Scottish driver Colin McRae, in a Subaru, won the Safari Rally by more than seven minutes. The victory in Kenya took him to the top of the world championship standings ..... Page 52

Athletics: Mary Decker-Slaney, in her fourth year as a veteran, will attempt to become the first woman to break the four-minute barrier for 1,500 metres indoors ..... Page 52

ARTS

Camera action: The National Portrait Gallery salutes the German photographer August Sander, who defied Nazi persecution to record his times ..... Page 36

Body language: Director and choreographer Nigel Charnock continues his trawl through modern despair with a new work, *The Message*, which combines dark words and movement ..... Page 37

Songs for supper: Cabaret in this country is not dead, but it's far from healthy. Now a group of London impresarios is trying to put things right ..... Page 37

Parable parade: Britten's three church parables are presented together in a four-and-a-half-hour evening in Birmingham — but in the wrong order ..... Page 38

FEATURES

Mind the baby: If ever two groups were divided by misunderstanding, Rachel Morris writes, it is those who want children and those who do not ..... Page 14

Coming of age: In the 1950s, Margaret Attwood, trying to make her name as a writer, found it more of a disadvantage being Canadian than being female. Now all that has changed ..... Page 14

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

God-given talent: Mark Andrews meets the Reverend Mother continuing the ancient tradition of those who have taken holy orders while developing a fruitful sideline — she is a sculptor ..... Page 21

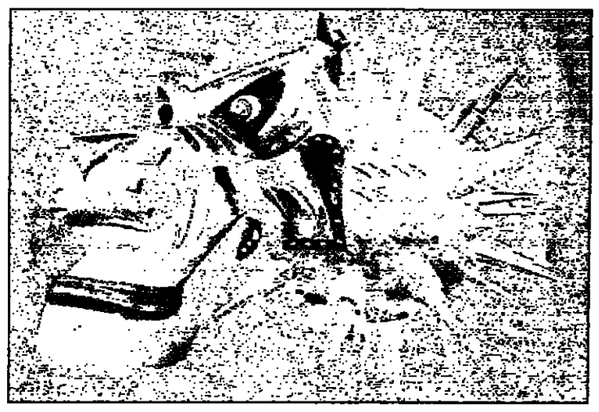
LAW

Breaking up: Why has there been such a rise in court costs for divorce proceedings, and is it limiting access to justice? ..... Page 39

Look out: The Law Society cannot afford to be inward-looking, says Phillip Sycamore ..... Page 41

THE PAPERS

Openly backed by the Pakistani Army and benefiting from American neutrality, the Taleban has managed to take control in two years of two-thirds of the Afghan territory. The error was to believe in the creation of a democracy and of a national Afghan conscience from nothing — *Libération*



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE
Biting back: inside one of Britain's most go-ahead computer graphics groups

■ HOMES
Learn about house history and win a book that can help you to research your home

TV LISTINGS

Preview: If Columbus did not discover America, who was there before him? *Timewatch* (BBC2, 9pm).
Review: Lynne Truss on the credits of *Kavanagh QC* ..... Page 51

OPINION

Youth on trial

Jack Straw's proposals may have been motivated by a desire to occupy a poorly defended piece of traditional Tory terrain but he deserves credit for devoting attention to juvenile offending ..... Page 17

Tung-tied

If Mr Tung believes that curbs on press freedom are a small price to pay for keeping Beijing happy, that can only mean that he regards this freedom as negotiable. For Hong Kong, any such trade-off would be a material as well as a political disaster ..... Page 17

Diplomatic invoice

The invoice will doubtless arrive embossed with an elegant Foreign Office crest: "To His Excellency's services on behalf of Acme Engineering Ltd: one hour's exclusive lobbying of the President, together with an exposition of the Company catalogue, £3,000" ..... Page 17

COLUMNS

LIBBY PURVES

Gender — as any tormented transsexual could tell you — will always lie at the heart of personality, but around that heart there is infinite scope for variety. There is no typical woman ..... Page 16

RICHARD OWEN

In Albania as in other East European states, the gangsters have emerged as the real post-communist power-brokers ..... Page 16

PETER RIDDELL

Some minister, in a broadcasting studio, press conference or interview, will say something about Europe before May 1 that will remind voters of the Tory's deep divisions. It is the politics of self-destruction ..... Page 8

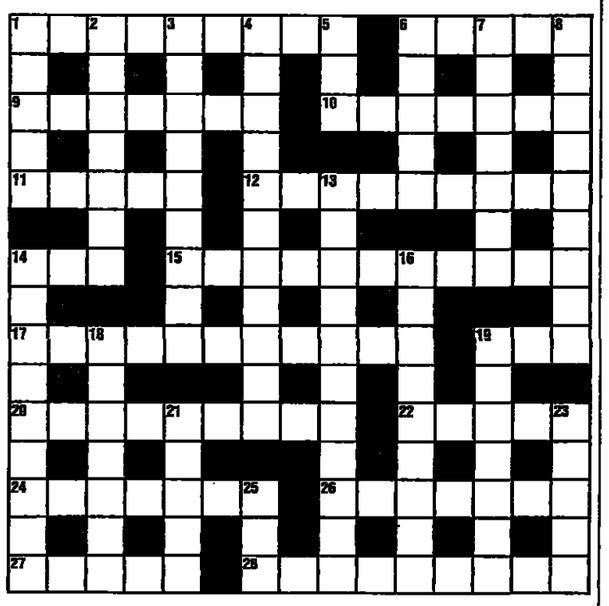
OBITUARIES

David Murison, editor of the *Scottish National Dictionary*; **Walter Ritchie**, sculptor; **Professor Peter Morris**, modern politics and history at Aston University ..... Page 19

LETTERS

Shortage of NHS beds; libraries; human cost of arms for Iraq; traps and the fur trade ..... Page 17

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,418



ACROSS

1 In European port, closes damaged locks (5,4).
6 *Ring* back about one feature of bed? (5).
9 Popular and mature, rejecting women's clique (2-5).
10 Queen backs own Scots working (7).
11 Rent increased or decreased? (3,2).
12 Get into ground, having Rugby training in break (9).
14 Think pound must be knocked off charge (3).
15 Madcap owns motor, showing hesitation about drink (5-6).
17 Write with editor's backing, in order to produce newspaper (11).
19 Have gained after initial reverse (3).
20 Painless effect of son replacing king in an African country (9).
22 Protection soldier found in main retreat (5).
24 Refreshing drink in paper container brother's knocked back (7).
26 Agreement to double hospital's speciality, a drug (7).
27 Supply space for printer directly (5).
28 City University post one holds invalid? (4,5).

DOWN

1 Ability to go over snow lines (5).
2 One's left something to secure entry into shelter (7).
3 One found in posh port rarely? (9).
4 Restrictive circles for diners' protection (6,5).
5 Prescribed a number of games that have their points (3).
6 Subsequently shown to be dead right? (5).
7 Primate concealing old weariness (7).
8 Given credit, fat man's retrained as an artisan (9).
13 Anger meant changes in character (11).
14 Cafe's rise possible result of cooking this? (9).
16 Emotionally releasing from sectarian movement out of control (9).
18 Insensitive, extreme, and having few prospects (4-3).
19 Newspaper article about unknown material (7).
21 A storm about British housing limit (5).
23 Cut very thin, say (5).
25 Serious complaint about a bill (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,417

B	L	A	S	P	H	E	M	E	S	■	B	I		
■	O	■	O	I	■	A	■	O	B	E	R	O	N	
C	O	M	M	O	N	E	R	■	D	■	I	■	T	
■	K	E	■	D	■	T	R	A	D	U	C	E	R	
■	I	■	R	E	■	I	■	■	K	■	O	■	■	
A	N	T	S	■	R	E	A	B	S	O	R	B	E	D
S	■	E	■	M	■	L	■	E	■	A	■	U	■	■
T	U	I	T	I	O	N	■	S	C	E	P	T	I	C
R	■	D	■	S	H	■	O	■	A	■	E	■	■	■
O	V	E	R	S	T	R	A	I	N	■	S	E	A	S
N	■	A	■	N	■	D	■	T	■	U	■	■	■	■
O	I	L	F	I	E	L	D	■	R	■	I	■	N	■
M	■	I	■	R	■	O	N	A	P	L	A	T	E	■
E	A	S	I	N	G	■	U	■	T	■	L	■	I	■
R	■	T	■	O	N	T	H	E	L	E	V	E	L	■

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Herne Bay, Kent, and London, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Stornoway, Outer Hebrides, 06C (43F); highest rainfall: Cuxrose, Cornwall, 0.8in; highest sunshine: Belfast, 8.1hr

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

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Western Provident Association
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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be cloudy in southernmost counties with rain, heavy at times, but this will tend to die out. Northern counties should stay dry, with sunny spells after a chilly start. Winds, generally, will be light and mainly south-easterly. Scotland and Northern Ireland should stay largely dry with sunny intervals. Cloud will increase from the south-west later in the day with perhaps some drizzle in Northern Ireland and south-western counties of Scotland by evening.

☐ **London, SE England, Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England:** cloudy with outbreaks of rain, heavy at times. Wind light to moderate, mainly south-easterly. Mild. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **E Anglia, Midlands, S Wales:** rather cloudy but generally dry. Wind light to moderate south-easterly. Mild. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **E England, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Central N:** dry, clear or sunny spells. Wind light south or south-easterly. Mild. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland:** dry, sunny spells; becoming cloudy with drizzle or light rain later. Wind southerly moderate. Max 09C (48F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** dry with clear or sunny spells. Wind southerly moderate. Max 09C (48F).

☐ **Central Highlands, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** dry with clear or sunny spells. Wind south or south-westerly fresh. Max 09C (48F).

☐ **Outlook:** mostly cloudy and damp; becoming brighter from the northwest later.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

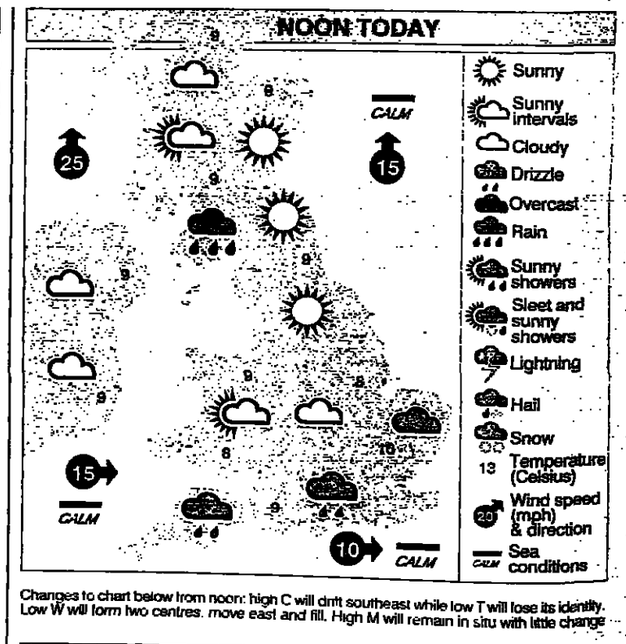
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	6.3	-	11	52	s	Littlehmptn	-	0.03	9	48	r
Aspatria	6.4	-	9	48	s	London	-	0.01	11	52	r
Aviemore	5.6	0.29	7	45	sh	Lowestoft	5.0	-	10	50	b
Belfast	8.1	0.01	9	48	s	Manchester	2.5	-	9	48	s
Birmingham	0.1	-	8	46	c	Margate	x				
Bognor R	-	0.04	9	48	r	Minehead	0.2	0.10	8	46	s
Boumem'th	-	0.15	9	48	r	Morecambe	-	-	8	46	du
Bristol	-	0.01	10	50	r	Newcastle	7.5	-	9	48	s
Buxton	2.2	0.01	7	45	s	Newquay	-	0.33	7	45	r
Cardiff	-	0.04	7	45	r	Norwich	5.6	-	10	50	b
Clacton	2.9	-	7	45	b	Oxford	x				
Cromer	5.6	-	9	48	s	Penzance	x	0.70	8	46	r
Eastbourne	-	0.05	9	48	d	Poole	-	0.14	9	48	r
Edinburgh	7.9	0.07	10	50	sh	Prestatyn	x	-	9	48	c
Eskdalemuir	4.6	0.02	7	45	b	Ross-o-wye	-	0.04	9	48	sh
Exmouth	-	0.31	8	46	r	Salcombe	-	0.70	8	46	r
Falmouth	-	0.52	7	45	r	Sandown	-	0.11	8	46	r
Fishguard	-	0.01	7	45	c	Saunin Snd	-	0.14	7	45	r
Folkestone	-	0.04	10	50	r	Scarboro'	0.8	-	9	48	c
Glasgow	5.0	0.10	10	50	b	Shrewsbury	1.1	-	8	46	b
Guernsey	-	0.17	11	52	r	Skegness	4.4	-	9	48	b
Hastings	0.6	0.07	9	48	r	Southend	x				
Hayling I.	-	0.04	9	48	r	Southport	-	-	8	46	b
Herne Bay	0.3	-	11	52	c	Southsea	-	0.04	9	48	r
Hove	0.8	x	9	48	sh	Stornoway	5.4	0.18	6	43	s
Hunstanton	x	-	8	46	s	Swanage	-	0.18	8	46	r
Isle of Man	1.7	-	8	46	s	Teignmouth	-	0.41	8	46	r
Jersey	-	0.11	11	52	r	Tenby	-	0.03	7	45	sh
Kinloss	7.8	0.09	9	48	s	Tiree	6.6	0.08	9	48	sh
Leeds	-	0.01	9	48	c	Torquay	-	0.44	10	50	r
Lerwick	5.6	0.14	7	45	h	Ventnor	-	0.17	8	46	r
Leuchars	8.0	0.03	9	48	sh	West-s-mare	-	-	9	48	du

ABROAD

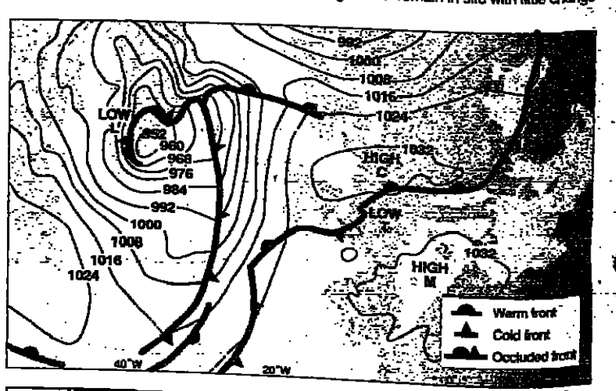
Ajaccio	14	57	f	Corfu	16	61	s	Majorca	16	61	c
Akrotiri	19	66	f	C'phagn	10	50	r	Malaga	19	66	s
Alex'dria	18	64	f	Dublin	8	46	f	Malta	15	61	f
Algiers	20	68	s	Dubrownik	14	57	s	Melb'rne	21	70	s
Amst'dm	12	54	c	Faro	17	63	s	Mexico C	22	72	s
Athens	13	55	f	Florence	16	61	s	Miami	28	82	s
B Aires	25	77	c	Frankfurt	18	61	s	Milan	15	59	s
Bahrain	19	66	s	Funchal	20	68	s	Montreal	6	43	c
Bangkok	32	90	f	Geneva	14	57	s	Moscow	4	39	c
Barbados	27	81	f	Gibraltar	17	63	s	Munich	20	68	s
Barcelona	13	55	c	Helsinki	3	37	c	N Delhi	26	79	s
Beirut	17	63	f	Hong K	20	68	f	N York	16	61	f
Belgrade	14	57	s	Innsbrck	15	59	s	Nairobi	28	82	f
Berlin	17	63	s	Istanbul	8	46	s	Naples	17	63	f
Bermuda	21	70	c	Jeddah	29	84	s	Nice	15	59	s
Biarritz	14	57	f	Jo'burg	x			Oslo	8	46	f
Borde'x	17	63	f	L Angels	x			Paris	13	55	c
Brussels	12	54	c	L Palmas	25	79	s	Peking	9	48	s
Budapst	13	55	s	Le Tquet	10	50	f	Perth	32	90	s
Cairo	19	66	c	Lisbon	13	55	fg	Prague	16	61	s
Cape Tn	x			Locarno	14	57	s	Reykjavik	-3	27	sn
Ch'church	17	63	s	Luxembg	15	59	s	Rhodes	16	61	f
Chicago	1	34	s	Luxor	29	84	s	Rio de J	32	72	f
Cologne	18	64	f	Madrid	18	64	s	Riyadh	29	73	s
								Rome	17	63	s
								S Fr'sco	12	54	s
								S Paulo	25	77	c
								Salzburg	17	63	s
								Santiago	29	84	s
								Seoul	4	39	f
								Sing'por	30	86	f
								St'kholm	8	43	r
								Strasb'rg	19	66	s
								Sydney	28	82	x
								Tangier	16	61	f
								Tel Aviv	18	64	s
								Tenerife	25	77	s
								Tokyo	10	50	c
								Toronto	26	79	f
								Tunis	18	64	f
								Valencia	18	64	s
								Vanc'ver	7	45	f
								Venice	17	63	s
								Vienna	13	55	s
								Warsaw	12	54	s
								Wash'ton	20	68	c
								Wel'ngton	21	70	x
								Zurich	15	59	s

Temperatures at midday local time. x = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high C will drift southeast while low T will lose its identity. Low W will form two centres, move east and fill. High M will remain in situ with little change



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	08.29	5.8	21.12	5.9	Leith	09.47	4.5	22.33	4.6
Aberdeen	08.41	3.5	21.29	3.6	Liverpool	06.12	7.6	18.55	7.6
Avonmouth	01.30	10.1	14.17	10.3	Lowestoft	04.25	2.2	17.09	2.1
Belfast	06.00	2.9	18.48	3.0	Margate	01.16	3.5	14.03	3.6
Cardiff	01.16	9.5	14.03	9.6	Milford Haven	-	-	12.35	4.4
Devonport	-	-	12.35	4.4	Newquay	00.51	5.3	13.33	5.3
Dover	05.51	5.5	18.36	5.5	Oban	-	-	12.34	5.4
Dublin (N Wall)	08.58	3.4	19.48	3.6	Penzance	01.14	2.9	13.43	2.9
Falmouth	-	-	12.06	4.2	Portland	11.58	4.3	-	-
Greenock	07.30	2.7	19.52	2.8	Portsmouth	01.06	1.4	13.56	1.3
Harwich	06.36	3.3	19.15	3.3	Shoreham	06.18	3.9	19.15	3.9
Holyhead	05.33	4.5	18.18	4.5	Southampton	06.02	4.9	18.52	5.0
Hull (Albert D)	00.51	7.2	13.39	7.2	Swansea	05.37	3.7	18.28	3.7
Ilfracombe	00.31	7.0	13.15	7.1	Tees	01.05	7.4	13.48	7.5
King's Lynn	00.55	5.0	13.44	5.1	Walton-on-N	11.03	4.3	23.49	4.4
						06.34	3.4	19.15	3.4

All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises 6.39 am — Sun sets 5.46 pm
Moon sets 12.21 pm — Moon rises 3.14 am
New moon March 9

London 5.46 pm to 6.37 am
Bristol 5.86 pm to 6.47 am
Edinburgh 5.53 pm to 6.54 am
Manchester 5.52 pm to 6.48 am
Penzance 6.09 pm to 6.57 am

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THE TIMES 2

TUESDAY MARCH 4 1997

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY



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Life as it really was in August Sander's photographs
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LAW
Tragic result of a Shirley Valentine affair
PAGES 39-41



SPORT
Age no barrier in Slaney's chase for gold
PAGES 46-52

TELEVISION AND RADIO
PAGES 50, 51

Former NatWest trader 'sent on leave'

BY ROBERT MILLER
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE derivatives trader at the centre of an investigation into a £50 million write-off at NatWest was yesterday suspended from his City job.

Bear Stearns, a US securities house, confirmed that Kyriacos Papouis "is currently on leave pending further information."

Mr Papouis left his relatively junior position at NatWest Markets in December. Last Friday the banking group was forced to announce to the stock market that it had set aside £50 million after discovering "mispricing errors in its interest rate options book."

Neil Dodgeson, a senior trader at NatWest, remains suspended "for failure to supervise, pending the conclusion of an internal inquiry."

Shares of NatWest fell heavily yesterday, closing down 27p at 731½p after touching 713p as the City reacted to Friday's disclosure.

NatWest Markets is now the subject of investigations by the Bank of England, which supervises interest rate options, and the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the watchdog for brokers and futures dealers, which authorises individual market traders.

NatWest, the UK's biggest clearing bank, has insisted that it knew nothing of the loss-making trades in the volatile interest rate options market, which can be used to limit or cap loss-making positions in the event of fluctuating global interest rates, until last Thursday.

NatWest is now expected to face disciplinary action by the SFA for its supervisory shortcomings. This could result in a hefty fine and the suspension of senior traders if they are found to have failed in the supervisory roles.

The Bank could also institute disciplinary proceedings against senior individuals within NatWest Markets for failure to supervise.

This sanction is available under the Banking Act but applies only to the most senior managers who report to the board of directors of a bank or regulated financial institution.

In this case the most senior supervisors are Jean François Nguyen, managing director of the interest rate market, and Chip Kruger and Gary Holloway, joint heads of NatWest's global debt markets operations.

Pennington 29
HSBC results 29
Bank takes up arms 31

CHRIS HARRIS



Kenneth Clarke tests his sewing machine skills at Annie Leather Ltd, near Brick Lane, yesterday while taking an upbeat message to businessmen in the East End

Clarke keen to keep lid on interest rates

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE last night set out his stall for a further five years as Chancellor, giving an upbeat assessment of Britain's economic prospects. He strongly suggested that he would continue to resist higher interest rates in the run-up to the election.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the British Retail Consortium, Mr Clarke said that he was not faced with a boom-boom Britain, with the shop-till-you-drop mentality of the 1980s. He said that the current economy, reshaped by Conservative deregulation and labour market reforms, would continue to deliver healthy growth and that there was currently an exceptional lack of inflationary pressures.

His remarks coincided with the latest economic evidence which showed a slowdown in the rate of growth of manufacturing industry as the strength of the pound hit export orders and kept industrial prices on a downward path, a deceleration in the growth of narrow money supply and a weakening in consumer credit growth. All three appeared to support the Chancellor's recent resistance to Bank of England demands for higher interest rates, providing evidence that the economy, if anything, has cooled off a little.

The Chancellor meets Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, for their monthly interest rate discussion tomorrow with virtually nobody betting on a rate rise. A poll of 20 economists by Reuters showed total unanimity that rates will be left on hold at 6 per cent and the Liffe futures market said that interest-rate expectations have been scaled back even further. The markets are now expecting rates to rise by only a half percentage point by September and by a further half by the end of 1998.

Mr Clarke said last night: "For every commentator concerned about the prospect of too strong growth, another is concerned about the effect of the strong pound on activity. I am happily placed in the middle."

Mr Clarke emphasised that his now long-running disagreement on interest rates with Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, came down to only a quarter-point difference of opinion. "The Governor thinks inflation will dip below 2.5 per cent this year, although he thinks that, on unchanged policies, it could be around 3 per cent in two years' time," he said. "But, as he has said himself, that is well within the margins of error."

The City saw yesterday's economic data offering strong support to the Chancellor's resistance to higher rates. The latest report from British purchasing managers showed that manufacturing activity continued to grow in February for the ninth consecutive month, but that the pace of expansion decelerated. The purchasing managers' index dipped to 53.5 from 53.9 in January.

The main culprit was sterling's strength which sapped export orders. The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply said: "The continued strength of the pound, by making UK goods more expensive in overseas markets, was increasingly being blamed for lost orders."

At the same time, the pound's strength had a very positive impact on prices, damping down the cost of imported raw materials. Input prices fell for the 16th consecutive month and registered the sharpest monthly fall since July. Nearly a third of all purchasing managers reported lower average prices.

The Bank of England published figures showing that year-on-year growth in M0 narrow money supply fell to 6.5 per cent in February from 7.3 per cent in January.

Net consumer credit rose by £853 million in January compared with a £983 million rise in December. This was the lowest rise in any month since June, largely reflecting weak borrowing on credit cards. Dharshini David, of HSBC Markets, said: "These figures imply that borrowing by consumers remains at a prudent and sustainable level and thus provides little cause for concern."

Upbeat Clarke, page 1

Forward chief's family makes £50m

BY OLIVER AUGUST

THE chairman of Forward Group, the electronics company, will make a personal profit of £15 million after accepting a £129 million takeover bid from PCB Investments of America.

Raymond Chamberlain said: "This is a sizeable amount of money, but it won't change my lifestyle. I have been in business for 30 years and I have been successful and enjoyed my wealth."

Mr Chamberlain's immediate family is to receive a further £35 million if the takeover goes through. PCB has so far secured only the Chamberlains' 40 per cent stake in Forward at 230p per share, a 40 per cent premium on Friday's close.

The £35 million will be held in trust for Mr Chamberlain's son and daughter, both teenagers. He said: "They don't know about this yet. They are not really old enough to understand." Mr Chamberlain's family owns a total of 22 million Forward shares.

Takeover negotiations started only three weeks ago. Mr Chamberlain had held exploratory talks with PCB over Christmas, but it was not until last month that the group, owned by a private investment fund, made a bid.

"Until recently I hadn't even heard of them," Mr Chamberlain said.

He will continue to work in his present position at Forward. "Forward is in a very exciting position. Originally we wanted to be a global payer in five to seven years. But with PCB's unlimited resources we will be in the top three worldwide in two years. That will get me out of bed in the morning," Mr Chamberlain said.

Forward shares closed at 225p yesterday. The irrevocable acceptance of the PCB bid made by Mr Chamberlain will remain binding even in the event of a higher bidder.

If a competing offer is forthcoming and the PCB offer lapses, PCB has been granted an option to acquire shares amounting to 12 per cent of the equity from Mr Chamberlain.

City Diary, page 31

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4307.1	(-1.2)
Yield	3.70%	
FTSE All share	2107.27	(-0.59)
Nikkei	18429.13	(-127.87)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6873.51	(-4.23)*
S&P Composite	790.43	(-0.39)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅝%*	(5⅝%)
Long Bond	97¹¹/₃₂*	(97²⁵/₃₂)
Yield	6.83%*	(6.81%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	6⅛/⅛%	(6⅛/⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	112¹/₂	(112¹¹/₃₂)

STERLING

New York		
$	1.6175*	(1.6285)
London:		
$	1.6195	(1.6315)
DM	2.7425	(2.7542)
FFr	9.2623	(9.2950)
SFr	2.3898	(2.4060)
Yen	195.68	(196.91)
£ Index	98.0	(98.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.6961*	(1.6895)
FFr	5.7215*	(5.7060)
SFr	1.4780*	(1.4778)
Yen	121.26*	(120.17)
$ Index	103.5	(103.3)

Tokyo close Yen 120.73

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (May) $18.60 ($18.60)

GOLD

London close $362.55 ($358.45)

* denotes midday trading price

BT forced to scrap campaign

OFTEL, the regulator, has ordered British Telecom to scrap an advertising campaign designed to entice former customers with discounts (George Sivell writes).

The campaign, launched on February 3 with a commercial by Rory McGrath, the comedian, offered new customers 25 per cent off all UK direct dial numbers for three months.

OFTEL said: "We have acted firmly because the campaign is not fair competition between operators. BT has discriminated unduly in targeting other operators' customers and has failed to obtain the director-general's consent to the below-cost element of the offer. BT is therefore in breach of its licence."

BT will examine the complaints made and will comply with the order immediately.

Rock windfall to top £1,300

BY ANNE ASHWORTH

ABOUT 900,000 Northern Rock customers can expect to receive a windfall of as much as £1,475 when the society makes its stock market debut in October, ending 147 years as a mutual organisation.

Each saving and borrowing member of the Northern Rock, which is based in Newcastle upon Tyne, will receive 500 free shares, estimated to be worth between 260p and 295p.

The news, announced yesterday, means that anyone who was a saver with each of the societies becoming banks this year or being taken over (Halifax, Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester, Northern Rock and Bristol & West) can expect to receive an average total payout of some £6,000.

Earlier predictions had put the Northern Rock payout at £1,000 per member, but the recent rise in the share price of Abbey National, the most closely comparable quoted company, has boosted the estimated value of Northern Rock to some £1.25 billion.

Adam Applegarth, Northern Rock's executive director, defended the decision to make a basic distribution of an equal amount of shares to members, rather than opting for the Halifax and Woolwich model of a variable distribution based on the size of balance.

Christopher Sharp, Northern Rock's managing director, said: "A basic distribution leaves eight out of ten of our members better off than under a variable benefit scheme."

Northern Rock savers will benefit if they had a balance of at least £50 at April 2, 1996, and of at least £100 at midnight on December 31, 1996. Borrowers must have had a mortgage of at least £100 at April 2, 1996, and at December 31, 1996.

The society confirmed that it would be establishing a charitable foundation on flotation. Each year the foundation will receive 5 per cent of pre-tax profits, equivalent to £8 million in 1996.



Sharp: defends distribution

Ernie cuts the prize odds

BY SARA MCCONNELL

PREMIUM BOND holders want to be millionaires but they also want a good flow of small regular wins. But National Savings has not been delivering. Its move in 1996 to fix the number of prizes, coupled with large rises in sales, has meant a small number of people winning big money while the majority go empty-handed.

From June, National Savings will reintroduce its old system of fixed odds and do away with the fixed limit of 350,000 prizes a month. The odds on winning a prize on any £1 bond will be fixed at 19,000 to one, much shorter than the one in 22,320 chance in March's draw. On present sales performance, there will be an estimated 430,000 prizes. Three quarters of the fund will be used to pay prizes of £100 and £50, a further 15 per cent will pay £500 and £1,000 prizes and the last 10 per cent £5,000 and the big one of £1 million.

Peter Bareau, chief executive of National Savings, said: "Premium Bond holders tell us they prefer to have a chance of winning more often, even if the average value of the prizes is slightly lower ... On average, people will win more frequently while still having a sporting chance of a large prize, plus of course the ability to get their holding back at any time."

Since the £1 million jackpot was announced in November 1993, National Savings has sold £6.6 billion worth of Premium Bonds, more than the total sold in the whole of their 40-year history.

The total value of eligible Premium Bonds is a record £7.8 billion, with Ernie, National Savings' number generating computer, paying out £30 million a month in tax-free prizes.

This month's millionaire comes from Surrey, with a winning bond bought in January and entered in the draw for the first time this month.

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Victorian fantasy painter of 'The Deluge', 'The Last Judgement', 'The Great Day of His Wrath' etc.

With no redemption penalties, our new two-year fixed rate deal is especially attractive. Take advantage of a highly competitive rate for two years - and you're still free to review your circumstances at any time. The details:

* 6.49% (6.7% APR) fixed until 1/3/99
* No redemption penalties
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* Offer of new business rate on expiry of the fixed rate term
* Lender's arrangement fee of £295 added to loan

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For a written quotation, contact your nearest John Charcol branch on the Freephone number below.

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Sidestep such inconveniences. Our redemption-free 2 year fixed rate at just 6.49% (6.7% APR) means you're free to review your rates at any time.

Typical Example: A £50,125 interest only mortgage (including £295 fee) on a property valued at £75,000, comprising an 18 month ... at 6.49% (6.7% APR). Total amount payable £31,995.25 calculated to include an acceptance fee of £295, £100 legal fee, £30 valuation fee, £25 bankruptcy search and £35 mailing fee. The APR is typical for an interest only loan over 25 years and assumes ... Written quotations available on request. Security may be required. Loans subject to status, type and value of property. APR may vary. Limited funds available. John Charcol Ltd is Regulated by Personal Investment Authority. The FSA does not regulate mortgage business.

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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

GMB signs deal on benefits with German union

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S unions took a significant step towards matching businesses' increasing internationalism when leaders of the GMB yesterday signed a reciprocal benefits deal with Germany's main chemical trade union.

Although a number of UK unions now have offices in Brussels to deal with the European Commission, this is the first time that one has established a formal link to provide mutual services for members with a union in continental Europe in a new move towards establishing minimum European employment standards. The deal between GMB and IG Chemie-Papier-Keramik is meant to offer benefits to the increasing numbers of British and German employees who are now working in each other's countries.

A GMB member working in Germany will have the right to membership of IG Chemie and German workers in Britain will be able to claim GMB membership.

The deal will cover 800,000 members of the GMB and more than a million IG Chemie members although the numbers of employees actually working in each other's countries are still relatively small and concentrated in particular sectors, such as construction.

The two organisations will offer "equivalent" support and advice to members working in each other's countries.

For GMB members working in Germany that means legal advice and support from union representatives and, significantly, members of European works councils.

The UK Government is strongly opposing EU legislation on the establishment of works councils in Britain.

German employees working in Britain will be able to use the GMB's free legal, health and safety advice services and take up union financial deals, including reduced-price insurance, holidays and motoring organisation membership.

John Edmonds, GMB general-secretary, said that multinational companies required a multinational response from employees.

Envisaging joint union membership as likely to become part of the package offered to employees taking out membership, he said that the GMB's move was a natural extension of the Europeanisation of the British jobs market.

Hubertus Schmoldt, of IG Chemie, said: "This co-operation is the first agreement of its kind between European unions.

"Our goal will be the creation of a joint membership at European level to be able to achieve minimum standards on bargaining agreements for all workers."

A planned TV-link launch of the deal was marred by technological problems yesterday between London and Hanover.

Water firms face prices shake-up

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

IAN BYATT, Director-General of Water Services, is to change the way he fixes price limits of regulated water companies at the next Ofwat review in 1999. Outperformance in profits will be transferred to customers by an up-front step cut in price limits, the water regulator said in a lecture to the Liverpool Economic and Statistical Society.

Mr Byatt has previously aimed to make price changes as smooth as possible by transferring gains to customers and permitting companies to levy extra revenue for investment gradually over five years. He has encouraged companies to share unexpectedly high profits with customers immediately but some have not gone along with this voluntary approach, preferring to invest more.

The change foreshadowed by Mr Byatt would bring Ofwat into line with the approach taken by regulators of energy utilities in recent reviews. But it will increase uncertainty in the industry by imposing big changes in revenue in the year of price reviews. Water shares edged down yesterday.

Mr Byatt said that 55 per cent of gains from outperforming Ofwat targets would still go to customers, compared with 20 per cent in taxation and 25 per cent to investors. But customers would get their share faster at the expense of investors.



Terry Benson accepts a cash windfall of £4.93m

Michael Page agrees £346m bid

By Fraser Nelson

MICHAEL PAGE GROUP, the recruitment services company, has agreed to a £346 million takeover bid from Interim Services, an American recruitment group, creating the fifth largest company of its kind in the world.

The cash bid will bring a £4.93 million cash windfall for Terry Benson, chief executive, and £1.1 million for Ian Nash, finance director. Both have options to buy shares at 2p each, and are accepting Interim's 550p per share offer.

Michael Page, the founder, will miss out on the deal, having sold his 2.8 per cent stake in the company for about £2.4 million on his retirement two years ago. The stake would have been worth £9.7 million under Interim's offer.

Mr Benson said the deal presented Michael Page with a long-awaited opportunity to expand into the US market, which he says has no company which recruits through the pages of national newspapers. He said the company intended to change the recruitment culture of the US, where workers wait to be approached for a new job.

He said: "The US is the largest recruitment market, but there are no companies who do exactly what we do. Networking is very close to an American's heart. They do tend to rely on being tapped on the shoulder."

The deal came as Michael Page saw a 72 per cent surge in pre-tax profits to £30.4 million for 1996 as margins shot from 16 per cent to 20 per cent.

Turnover was £142 million (£104 million). The dividend rises 80 per cent to 9p, with a final 7p, due on May 23.

The company's shares, which joined the market at 50p nine years ago, rose 55p yesterday to close at 550p.

Tempus, page 30

Business Roundup

Boston Scientific to create 1,000 jobs

BOSTON SCIENTIFIC, the US medical device manufacturer, is to create a further 1,000 jobs in a IrE38 million expansion of its plant in Galway, on the west coast of Ireland. The company already employs 500 at the plant, which develops and manufactures cardiovascular products.

Details of the investment which is assisted by the Industrial Development Agency (IDA), the Republic of Ireland's job creation body, came on the same day as Richard Bruton, the Minister for Enterprise and Employment, announced a new regional jobs policy to persuade companies to look beyond the country's big cities. Mr Bruton said the IDA will offer higher financial incentives, while local authorities in small towns and rural areas will be encouraged to develop serviced sites to attract new industrial investment.

BPI buys Dutch group

BRITISH POLYTHENE INDUSTRIES, the acquisitive polythene film company, is expanding in continental Europe with the acquisition of a film and sack manufacturer from Wavin, of The Netherlands, for about £14 million. BPI group sales grew to £412 million (£352 million), but restructuring problems and higher interest charges held back pre-tax profits to £28 million (£25.1 million). Earnings fell slightly to 47.1p (47.4p) a share, and the dividend is 18.25p (16.5p), with a final 12p.

Trials by Chiroscience

CHIROSCIENCE GROUP, the biotechnology company, said yesterday that it has discovered two new potential therapies for cancer which it will put under trial this year. The company added that work on Levobupivacaine, its long-acting local anaesthetic, was progressing well and was in phase three trials. Two of its inhibitor development candidates have been selected for phase one trials. *Chiroscience shares fell 15½p to 397p.*

Warning hits Tunstall

SHARES of Tunstall Group fell 83p to 281½p after the supplier of communication systems issued a second profit warning. The company said earnings would be adversely affected by competitive trading in Germany, compounded by the impact of the strength of sterling. The company said that although UK expectations were unchanged, this is unlikely to offset the downturn in Germany, resulting in a fall in profit this year.

Accountant rebuked

JIM WAITS, who was set to be president of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (Acca) next year, is expected to resign membership after being admonished for unprofessional behaviour and told to pay £3,100 costs. He can appeal. Acca acted after Mr Waits, a former chief executive of Worcester & District Health Authority, publicly criticised Professor Prem Sikka, a fellow accountant, at an Acca meeting.

Newman Tonks falls

NEWMAN TONKS, the engineering group, subject of an agreed bid by Ingersoll-Rand in January, yesterday reported full-year profits of £6.3 million, down from £27 million in 1995. Operating profits were £20.6 million (£19.3 million), but exceptionals totalled £5.5 million for discontinued operations and £6.3 million in a provision for bid costs. A second interim dividend of 4.4p a share will be paid on April 11.

Lilleshall pegs payout

LILLESHALL, the building materials group, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits to £1.35 million in the year to December 31, from £3.96 million in the previous year. Earnings fell to 1.7p a share from 8.4p although the total dividend for the year will be maintained at 4.85p a share. The company said that the disposals in the final quarter of 1996 would help to strengthen the company and would result in a lower interest bill.

Privatised rail jobs threatened

By Jonathan Prynn, Transport Correspondent

MORE than 2,300 jobs will be lost on privatised railways throughout the north of England, it was claimed by a pressure group yesterday. On the day after the northeast and northwest regional railway networks went into private hands, their new owners were accused of planning to scrap "irreplaceable" railway expertise.

The claims were made by Save Our Railways after it released extracts from bid documents lodged with the franchising authorities.

Save Our Railways said the documents showed that 1,200 jobs will go at Regional Railways North East, which is now operated by MTL Trust, a Merseyside bus company; 800 at Regional Railways North West, run by Great Western Holdings, and a further 355 jobs at Merseyside Electrics, another MTL franchise, which was privatised last month.

MTL and Great Western Holdings said no decisions have yet been taken about job losses and that redundancies would be announced only after consultation with management and staff.

Industry experts believe there are almost certain to be job losses at most, if not all the privatised franchises, but they will be concentrated mainly on managerial posts.

Pennington, page 29

Tourist Rates

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.01	Japan Yen	210.00	194.00
Austria Sch	20.28	18.78	Malta	0.660	0.605
Belgium Fr	59.51	55.21	Netherlds Gld	3.234	3.004
Canada $	2.326	2.165	New Zealand $	2.48	2.28
Cyprus Cyp£	0.854	0.799	Norway Kr	11.51	10.71
Denmark Kr	11.03	10.23	Portugal Esc	287.00	259.50
Finland Mkk	8.78	8.13	S Africa Rd	7.84	7.04
France Fr	9.66	9.01	Spain Pta	244.00	227.00
Germany Dm	2.90	2.69	Sweden Kr	12.86	12.06
Greece Dr	449	423	Switzerland Fr	2.52	2.34
Hong Kong $	13.21	12.21	Turkey Lira	206000	192000
Iceland	120	100	USA $	1.723	1.593
Ireland Pt	1.08	1.00			
Israel Shk	5.73	5.08			
Italy Lira	2877	2702			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

HSBC Holdings plc

Results for 1996

For the year	1996	1995
Profit before tax	£4,524m	£3,672m
Profit attributable to shareholders	£3,112m	£2,462m
Earnings per share	117.61p	94.01p
Dividends per share	41.00p	32.00p
Capital resources	£23,486m	£21,324m

- Pre-tax profit up 23% and attributable profit up 26%
- In Hong Kong dollar terms pre-tax profit up 22% and attributable profit up 25%
- Earnings per share up 25%
- Dividends per share up 28%
- Second interim dividend of 26 pence per share, with scrip dividend alternative
- Total capital ratio 15.3% and tier 1 capital ratio 9.9%

Comment by Sir William Purves, Group Chairman

"The good results of HSBC Holdings in 1996 demonstrated solid growth in our business and improved profitability in all of the major geographic regions where we operate.

"The Board of Directors has declared a second interim dividend (in lieu of a final dividend) of 26 pence per ordinary share payable on 30 April 1997, about a month earlier than in previous years.

"This excellent performance would not have been possible without the many contributions of our staff around the world, and the Board thanks each and every one of them.

"Despite intense competition in all of our markets, our net interest margins improved, although, as expected, there was some contraction in Hong Kong in the second half of the year. Costs were well controlled.

"While we are satisfied with the Group's performance, 1997 will be a year filled, for us, with challenges and opportunities, marked, most importantly, by the transition of Hong Kong to a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

"Around the world, financial markets are consolidating and new competitive threats are arising from non-traditional participants in those markets. I am optimistic and confident that we have the people and the financial strength to meet the challenges and take full advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead."

Copies of the full results announcement may be obtained from Group Public Affairs, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6AE, United Kingdom. The 1996 Annual Report and Accounts will be sent to shareholders on or about 25 April 1997.

Incorporated in England with limited liability
Registered in England: number 617987
Registered Office and Group Head Office: 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6AE, United Kingdom

Legal & Public Notices

0171-782 7344

Legal Notices

No 749 of 1997
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE CROYDEX COMPANY LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 11th day of February 1997 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share capital of the above named company from £4,000,000 to £3,797,744.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT the said Petition is listed to be heard before the Companies Court Registrar at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 12th day of March 1997 Any creditor or shareholder of the said company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors upon payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 25th day of February 1997
Garratt & Co, Central House
47 St Paul's Street
LEEDS LS1 2TE
Ref: IWB/MRAV/CAG
Tel: 0113 244 1954
Fax: 0113 241 6291
Solicitors for the above named Company

KIRKPATRICK (JEWELLERS) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 24th March 1997 at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq. It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning the Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
A list of the names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF between the hours of 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated this 26th February 1997
Philip James Mander, Director

LEE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, S D Sweden, FCA, of Leonard Curtis & Co, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 27th February 1997.
Dated 27th February 1997
S D SWADEN, Liquidator

As required by NORWEB Gas' licence to operate in the domestic gas market, the following charges for gas will apply to all new domestic customers from 2nd March 1997.
Plan A (Payment by direct debit): Standing charge - £8.19 per quarter; Unit rate - 1.284 p/kWh
Plan B (Payment by direct debit): Standing charge - Nil; Unit rate - 1.713 p/kWh
Plan C (Payment on receipt of bill): Standing charge - £8.49 per quarter; Unit rate - 1.337 p/kWh
Plan D (Payment on receipt of bill): Standing charge - Nil; Unit rate 1.766 p/kWh
Pre-payment: Standing charge - £9.47 per quarter; Unit rate - 1.633 p/kWh
All of the above charges do not include VAT and volumes of gas will be subject to a correction factor for temperature and pressure.

FIRTRADE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Pursuant to section 175 of the Companies Act 1985 Firtrade International Limited (Company Number 2285647) ("the Company") hereby gives notice that:
1. The Company approved by written resolutions of the Company passed on 26 February 1997 pursuant to section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 a payment out of capital (for the purpose of acquiring 40,396 of its own £100 ordinary shares by purchase;
2. The amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £1,669,043;
3. The statutory declaration of the directors and the auditors' report required by section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at 12 Gough Square, London EC4A 3DE the Company's registered office;
4. Any creditor of the Company may at any time prior to the date of the resolutions for payment out of capital apply to the court under section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an order prohibiting the payment.
Ashurst Morris Crisp, solicitors acting on behalf of Firtrade International Limited
27 February 1997

Young & Smith (Underwriting) Ltd
In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, Robert Stephen Palmer of Gallagher & Co, Titchfield House, 69/85 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4RR, give notice that on 19 November 1996 I was appointed Liquidator by resolutions of members.
Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 21 March 1997 to send in their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Robert Stephen Palmer of Titchfield House, 69/85 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4RR, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution
Note: This notice is purely formal. All creditors have been or will be paid in full.
Dated: 26 February 1997
Robert Stephen Palmer
Liquidator

Public Notices

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities: The Woolwich Parochial Almshouse Charity (313537)
Josiah Forster's Trust (209687) Dovedale Almshouses (247553) Hopton's Charity (209342) The Pilgrim's Lodge Charity (207389) Mary Tate's Almshouses (200449) Sir Abraham Dawes Almshouses (203589) Charlotte Beatty's Almshouses (204442) Esther Dee's Almshouse Charity (207628)
Scheme including appointment of trustees
Reference: CF-30051-CD(Lds)
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for these charities. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at FWA, 501-505 Kingsland Road, London E8 or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Charity Commission, St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today 4th March 1997

Trustee Acts

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the assets of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

SECTION 27 TRUSTEE ACT
THE AETNA RE-INSURANCE COMPANY (UK) LIMITED
RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME
(FORMERLY THE AMERICAN RE-INSURANCE COMPANY (UK) LIMITED
RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME
NOTICE is hereby given to all persons who are or were members of The Aetna Re-Insurance Company (UK) Limited Retirement Benefits Scheme (formerly the American Re-Insurance Company (UK) Limited Retirement Benefits Scheme) that the Scheme is being wound-up. It is believed that all members of the Scheme and their benefits under it have been identified and the Trustees announce their intention to distribute the assets of the Scheme to those who appear to be entitled. If you were a member of the Scheme and believe you may be entitled to benefit from it and you have not been contacted by the Trustees, please post notification of your claim specifying your full name, address and full particulars of your membership of the Scheme to Duncan Hopkin, Secretary to the Trustees, c/o The Imperial Fire & Marine Re-Insurance Company Limited, Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London, EC3A 7DT so as to reach that address on or before 6 May 1997 Trustees would be interested to receive notification from any person who was employed by The Aetna Re-Insurance Company (UK) Limited and the American Re-Insurance Company (UK) Limited on a part time basis and who is intending to bring a claim based on inequality of treatment. Claims received after the above date will be excluded from the calculation of benefits and the distribution of assets of the Scheme.
Dated

Monteagle Société Anonyme

(Incorporated in Luxembourg, R.C. No. B19600)

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the fifteenth Annual General Meeting of Monteagle Société Anonyme will be held at the offices of Maitland & Co. S.à.r.L. 68-70 boulevard de la Pétrusse, Luxembourg on Thursday 27th March, 1997 at 3.00 p.m. (local time).
Copies of the Annual Report and Financial Statements containing full details of the above are available from City Group Limited, 25 City Road, London, EC1Y 1BQ and from C.I. Registrars Limited, P.O. Box 30, Victoria Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 2PZ

By Order of the Board
City Group Limited
Group Secretaries

68-70 boulevard de la Pétrusse,
Luxembourg.
4th March, 1997

☐ NatWest counts the cost ☐ Lanica investors still waiting for news ☐ Failing rail operators deserve stiff penalties

Bonus culture takes a knock

☐ IT MUST be a measure of the rigid management control exerted by NatWest over the trader who managed to blow a £50 million-sized hole below the waterline before he left that it has taken the bank three days to work out how to spell his name.

For the record, all questions, should be addressed to one KYRIACOS PAPOUIS, c/o Bear Stearns (but only just), and not to any of the baroque variations on this theme that appeared in the weekend press. This is the name that appears on the Securities and Futures Authority register.

NatWest says nothing was known of all this when Derek Wanless stood up to deliver 1996 figures on Tuesday morning. There are two reasons to believe the bank. One, it will sue us if we don't and two, holding the news until Friday night and then slipping it out did nothing to lessen the embarrassment.

Internal surveillance would have known some time before that Mr Papouis's position on the derivatives desk was one of a number giving rise to routine concern, so triggering an audit. The full extent of the damage was only clear last week.

Just what was Mr Papouis up to? For the less technically minded, derivatives trading is a form of betting against future market trends, in interest rates in his case. On the other side of the bargain tend to be respectable companies that need to ensure that a rates change does not throw their profits out. They therefore pay a small margin to cover them if this happens.

The derivatives dealers have it the other way around. It should be easy money as long as risk is laid off elsewhere. The difficulty is that the only way out of any initial losses other than accepting them is to bet again, and if they keep guessing wrong, the losses double and redouble. As with such arithmetical progressions, after a few generations the numbers are huge.

So why did he do it? It could have been simple incompetence — he had no idea where he was. Secondly, he could have seen his initial loss approaching and rather than take it on the chin, tried to recoup it with a riskier bet, as above, digging himself even deeper into the hole.

Mr Papouis's bonus last year would probably have outstripped his basic salary. Any attempt to inflate it by hiding his losses from an employer could equate to fraud. Significantly, Mr Papouis did not take his bonus last year, but departed before it fell due. This rather suggests the second theory.

The Bank of England's paper yesterday is full of well-meaning attempts to suggest how such runaway losses in dealing rooms can be avoided. The trouble is that, as with the practice of poaching one another's key staff, success would require a change of heart by one and all.

Otherwise, employers that concentrated on salaries or deferred bonuses, one option mentioned by the Bank, would simply be outbid for the best staff by those prepared to stick with the bonus culture.

Kept in suspense

☐ IN DAYS to come they will study Andrew Regan's emergence at Lanica Trust at management school as the textbook case of how not to make your name as a bright, dynamic entrepreneur. It is now three weeks since Lanica's shares were suspended by the Stock Exchange in circumstances of pure farce, and no one



is saying when they might start trading again.

Mr Regan arrived at Lanica, then New Guernsey Securities Trust, with shares worth less than a quid, last autumn trailing a cloud consisting of about nine parts hype and speculation for every one of achievement. His reputation was founded on an earlier deal with the Co-op that was going to be a spectacular success but in the end brought in only modest returns.

But he was at least an established wheeler-dealer, and so well evolved to life in today's stock market, where instant profits are the norm. A small deal followed, a joint venture with that retailing titan, the Naafi. From small beginnings, thought investors, and by January the share price had risen to £20, a level even the company's broker described as "lunatic".

The price had to be suspended at £19.50 because news of the real big deal leaked, plans to buy the Co-op's non-food business — except that the Co-op has made it clear no deal is in the offing. There the situation remains, and pretty unsatisfactory it is for any investors who may be regretting ever having heard of Mr Regan in the first place. The Stock Exchange has asked for some information — such as, presumably, is the Co-op deal still on? Was it ever? Lanica believes it has provided the necessary facts, but the shares are still suspended so we must assume otherwise.

Mr Regan could pull off a deal, even if the chances look slim. The Co-op is a funny beast, and not in the business of providing instant millions for ambitious entrepreneurs.

If the deal is dead, Lanica must say so. This would raise the suspension and allow the shares to crash to whatever they are really worth as those shareholders no longer prepared to back Mr Regan's business acumen got out. As Lanica has not said anything, we must likewise assume the deal is still on.

The train staff now leaving . . .

☐ SO NOW we have four privatised rail franchises that have responded to the freedoms of the private sector by sacking large numbers of staff. At South West Trains, staff were axed who, it turned out, might better have been kept on to drive the trains. A public outcry forced the company to hand out free journeys to suffering customers, so there was some justice in the end.

Last week, Regional Railways North East was accused by a pressure group of cutting jobs; yesterday, Regional Railways North West and Merseyrail Electrics joined the identity parade.

Two thoughts occur. One is that these franchiseholders are so anonymous a bunch that we might as well revert to the old liveries and have done with it, rather than try to distinguish between Regional Railways North East and its near-namesake RRN West as either flashes through the station.

The second is to wonder just what on earth anyone thought would happen at a privatised train operator. In this case, the sell-off was not intended to bring in huge sums to the Exchequer but to find someone to run the trains with a modicum of efficiency while guaranteeing that they would stay running.

South West should not be handing out freebies on the platform as atonement for its sins. Instead, the regulator should ensure that the financial penalties for failure are so monumentally awful that this never becomes necessary.

Pyramid crumbles

☐ IN ALBANIA, the inevitable collapse of a pyramid "investment" scheme has left 13 people dead and much of the population ruined and in open revolt. The President, newly re-elected by his supporters, has closed the borders, imposed strict censorship and warned anyone carrying arms that they may be shot on sight. At best, these schemes are meretricious and undesirable. A sensible precaution, you might think, would be to ban them before the streets of Liverpool, say, home of one of their biggest fans, erupt like those of Tirana.

HSBC to review safety after NatWest affair

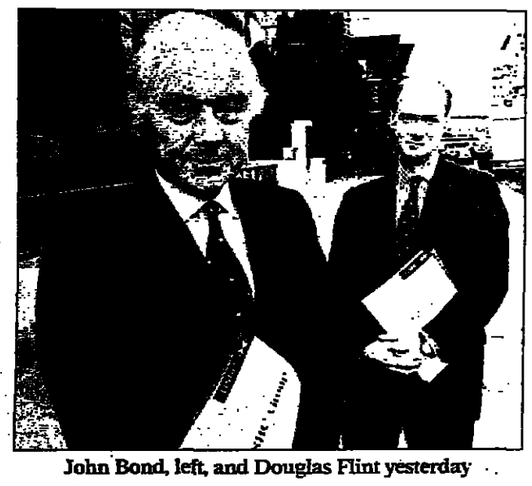
By Robert Miller
Banking Correspondent

HSBC, the international banking group that yesterday unveiled a 23 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £4.5 billion, said it will hold a thorough review of its risk procedures in the wake of the £50 million "black hole" reported at NatWest Markets.

John Bond, chief executive of HSBC, owner of Midland Bank, which contributed a 27 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £1.3 billion, said of the NatWest case: "As the facts become known to us, we will check to see how we would have coped against a similar situation. We are working every day to improve our control environment."

HSBC declared a second interim dividend of 26p, due on April 30, in lieu of a final payout. Together with the first interim dividend, of 15p, it gives a full-year payout of 41p, up 28 per cent on 1995. In line with its competitors, HSBC, which saw assets increase by 4 per cent, to £237 billion, reported an 8 per cent fall in bad debt provisions, to £384 million.

Within the HSBC banking group, the Hongkong Bank chipped in with attributable profits of £1.6 billion, a 16 per cent rise on the previous year's result, while Hongkong Bank Malaysia and Hongkong Bank of Canada contributed profits of £84 million and £55 million, respectively. The British Bank of the Middle East made a profit of £62 million, up from £58 million in the previous year.



John Bond, left, and Douglas Flint yesterday

HSBC's investment banking division, which covers advisory and financing services, asset management, private banking and trustee activities, contributed a 37 per cent jump in attributable profits, to £228 million.

Mr Bond reported that Midland, whose Forward Trust division saw profits increase by £6 million, to £97 million, had seen operating expenses rise by £13 million to £2.3 billion, although staff costs fell by £8 million.

Bifu, the banking, insurance and finance union, reacted angrily to the profits of HSBC, of which Douglas Flint is finance director, and said that more than a third of Midland's staff faced a pay freeze. Alan Scrimgour, the assistant general secretary of Bifu, said: "Staff are incensed by the freeze. They can't understand why a bank can treat staff so badly at a time of record profits and when shareholders are doing very nicely."

Commenting on the annual results, Sir William Purves, the chairman of HSBC, said: "While we are satisfied with the group's performance, 1997 will be a year filled, for us, with challenges and opportunities, marked, most importantly, by the transition of Hong Kong to a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China."

Tempus, page 30

Kleinwort acts after departure

KLEINWORT BENSON, the investment bank, will move swiftly to capitalise on the departure of Simon Robertson, the chairman who resigned last Friday in a dispute over the transfer of some operations to Frankfurt (Oliver August writes).

The integration of Kleinwort with Dresdner Bank, its German parent, will be stepped up, with a view to completing the process by the end of this year.

A Kleinwort spokesman said: "More people from Frankfurt will come over to London and vice versa. The teams will really start meshing."

The departure is expected to free a log jam of decisions and appointments. "Aspects that haven't been tackled will be tackled now. The new people will become more important," he said.

Hays 18% ahead at half time

By Alasdair Murray

HAYS, the business services group, bounced back from the disappointment of failing in its £1.15 billion bid for Christian Salvesen to reveal an 18 per cent increase in half-year profits to £72 million before tax and exceptional items.

Exceptional charges totalled £7.5 million, including write-offs for acquisitions and the costs of the aborted bid for Salvesen last summer.

Ronnie Frost, chairman, said that the company expected increased profits from its distribution unit and strong growth from its commercial and personnel divisions in the second half. The company would concentrate on organic growth, although it would not rule out acquisitions.

The shares fell 14p to 551p because of profit-taking and some concern in the City over the company's increased reliance on the highly cyclical personnel services business.

Hays said that it had won a larger contract from Scottish & Newcastle, the brewing company, which includes all "off-trade" distribution. The company also recently signed a contract with Kriegbaum, the German retailer, to develop and manage two large distribution centres.

The distribution division reported flat profits of £29.4 million after problems with the chemical distribution business, while the commerical division increased profits by a third to £23.8 million. The personnel division also raised profits by a third to £22.8 million.

The interim dividend, payable on May 30, was increased 15 per cent to 3p.

Tempus, page 30

Rover profit expected in three years

ROVER will return to profit in three years after a period of heavy losses and new investments by BMW, its German parent company (Oliver August writes).

Bernd Pischetsrieder, BMW chairman, said: "The euphoria was very large at the beginning. Then the sobriety set in. But nothing has changed in how we view the company, nor in our goals or whether we think we'll meet them. Rover is currently at the same point as most other European competitors."

Rover made an operating profit of DM210 million in 1995 but was left nursing a net loss of DM335 million, after interest charges and the costs of investing in new facilities.

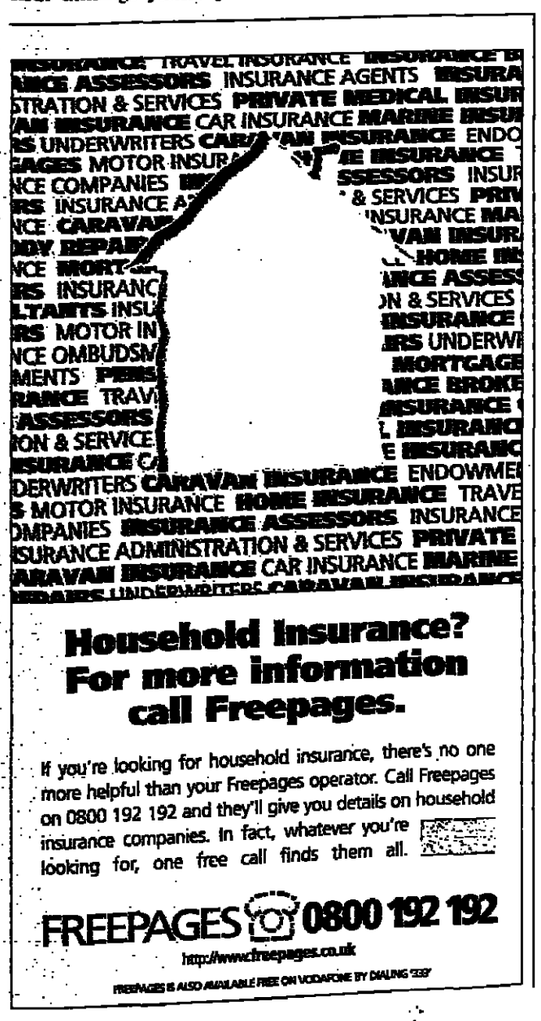
Politics put above bonuses

By Gavin Lumsden

HOWARD FLIGHT, joint managing director of Guinness Flight and prospective parliamentary Conservative candidate for Arundel, is putting politics above bonuses in the company's link-up with Hambros Fund Management.

As deputy chairman of Guinness Flight Hambro Asset Management — the new company announced to the stock exchange yesterday — Mr Flight will receive less in performance incentives than Tim Guinness, his joint partner who becomes chief executive. Andrew Martin Smith, head of Hambro Fund Management, is deputy chief executive. Mr Flight, however, is bullish about his political prospects. Arundel is a new seat with an estimated in-built Conservative majority of 20,000. He said: "If there are 25 Conservative MPs after the election, I should be one of them."

Although he will not get the lions' share, Mr Flight will participate in a bonus scheme which could see the top 50 GFHAM managers double their stake to 30 per cent. Guinness Mahon Holdings and Hambros will retain a 42.5 per cent stake in the company which will have £9.3 billion under management. Both companies combine strengths in Asia and in managing fixed interest and smaller companies. Mr Flight said Guinness Flight had received several offers from US and European fund managers but had wanted to retain maximum independence. He said GFHAM's biggest challenge was to build up a UK-based pension fund business.



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Directors at Close share £7m

By Gavin Lumsden

DIRECTORS at Close Brothers, the merchant bank, rewarded themselves with a £6.9 million payout yesterday, cashing in share options after a 30 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £28.2 million.

Rod Kent, managing director, topped five other directors with a windfall of £2.2 million. He retains a 0.47 per cent stake in the company.

Earnings rose 21 per cent to 15.31p a share after a strong performances from asset finance, market making and merchant banking. The interim rises 19 per cent to 3.8p, payable on April 18.

Close said a quarter of its income came as fees, up from 14 per cent, mainly the result of the success of its enlarged corporate finance business. Mr Kent said: "Corporate finance has had a hell of a good start, integrating the business from Hill Samuel very well and with over 80 clients." This lifted merchant banking's share of operating profits 4 per cent to 26 per cent, although asset finance and marketmaking slipped slightly to 41 per cent and 33 per cent respectively.

Tempus, page 30

Shares lift for former pole-vaulter

David Stevenson, the former Olympic pole-vaulter and director of Dobbies, the garden centre company, will become a paper millionaire next Monday when the group joins the Alternative Investment Market.

Mr Stevenson stands to gain a shareholding worth £1.16 million, which will be valued at £9.39 million. Dobbies, which runs eight garden centres in Scotland and the North East of England, is raising £2.5 million from the flotation.

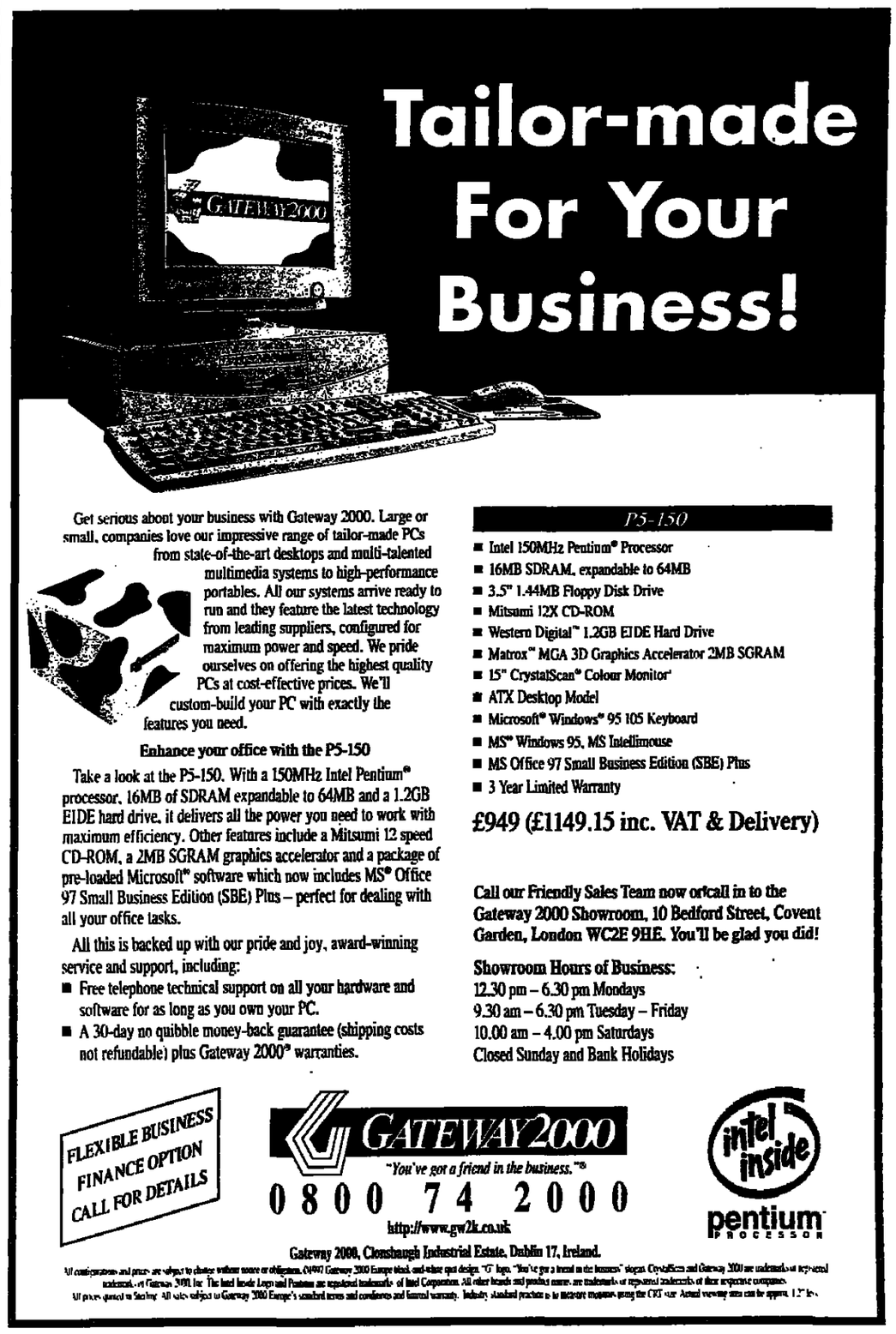
It returned pre-tax profits of £629,000 for the year to October 31, on sales of £6.6 million.

Hamleys hopes

Hamleys, the toy shop group, said it anticipates a substantial increase in its sales from July 1997 when it will be opening toy concessions that will take over the toy business in Debenhams. The operation will trade under the House of Toys facia.

Vanguard loss

Vanguard Medica reported a pre-tax loss of £10.9 million (£3.6 million loss) in the year to December. The loss per share rises from 33p to 53p.



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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

French bid speculation drives CU price higher

CITY speculators were again driving shares of **Commercial Union** higher on revived talk that a bid may be just around the corner.

This comes just a week after the group announced a profits setback and lower than expected net asset value. Last night the price closed 38p higher at 721p — just 27p below its all-time high — on turnover of four million shares.

This latest burst of speculative activity began to gather momentum on Friday after a large line of shares changed hands at a hefty premium to the ruling market price.

Talk yesterday focused on a bid from France at around 900p, valuing the entire group at £6 billion. However, the current weakness of the French franc against sterling would make this unlikely. In the past, CU has also been linked with Allianz, the german insurer.

Merger talks with **BAT Industries** broke down just before Christmas. BAT, which reports tomorrow, has extensive interests in the financial services sector through Eagle Star, Farmers in the US and Allied Dunbar. Its shares rose 8¹₂p to 545¹₂p.

Share prices generally clawed back an early 21-point deficit, encouraged by the rally in the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street after opening losses. The FT-SE 100 index finished just 1.2 down at 4,307.1 with turnover reaching a massive 1.4 billion shares, partly boosted by share buybacks in **Yorkshire Water**, 2¹₂p easier at 355¹₂p, and **Southern Electric**, 30p dearer at 428¹₂p. Southern is the last of the independent regional electricity companies.

NatWest touched 713¹₂p before closing 27p down at 731¹₂p in the wake of Friday's late-breaking news about a £50 million write-off relating to errors in its interest rate options book. Two traders have been suspended pending an inquiry.

The City gave a lukewarm reception to full-year figures from **HSBC**, with the price losing 30p at £15.52. Investors were said to be switching, instead, into **Standard Chartered**, up 24¹₂p at 866p.

A second bear raid turned **Maid**, the information technology group, on its head with the price losing an early 16¹₂p lead to close 8¹₂p down on the day at 170p. Last year Maid was trading at 341p but hit a low of 150p a few weeks back after a bear raid. The company was forced to issue a *trading update and has since announced a number of lucrative* "alliances".

Forward Group stood out with a jump of 61p at 225p after PCB Investments, a privately owned US investment fund, made an agreed £129 million offer. The terms value the printed circuit board manufacturer at 230p a share.



Christopher Burgin of Bluebird Toys, where shares rose 2¹₂p

"There is no reason for the depressed state of the share price".

The agreed £346 million bid for **Michael Page** *from Interim Services came out of the blue and lifted the shares 55p to 550p. The terms of the bid value the recruitment agency at 557p a share.*

Shares in the **Daily Mail and General Trust** beat a hasty retreat, with the ordinary losing 15p at £16.65, and the "A" dipping 12¹₂p at £15.97¹₂ as the late Viscountess Rothermere's 10.8 per cent stake in the company went up for sale. **Emap**, the publisher, continued to lose ground, falling 20¹₂p at 749¹₂p after reports of further boardroom departures. Last week David Arcules, a director, announced he was leaving to join **United News & Media**, 1p easier at 707p.

PPL Therapeutics, a recent high-flyer, fell 82¹₂p to 430p on reports that the Government had withdrawn financial support to develop its cloning programme through the Roslin Institute.

Aspen Communications was 19p better at 196p after agreeing to dispose of Aspen Insurance Services for £8.25 million. The business was expected to make losses of £400,000 in 1996.

Wyndeham Press, a rival printer, 4p better at 204p, is selling its Unity Paper Tubes subsidiary to TranZonic, the US group, for almost £3 million. The business made pre-tax profits of £305,000 last time round but was not considered to be a core activity.

The decision to ask shareholders to dig deep in their pockets left **JKX Oil & Gas** 30p lower at 59p. The group is raising £14.2 million by way of a *two-for-three at 34p. It came* as JKX reported increased losses of £2.4 million.

An upbeat trading statement lifted **Bluebird Toys** 2¹₂p to 185p, despite announcing sharply reduced profits. They were down from £17.8 million to £9.9 million, but the group, where Christopher Burgin is chief executive, said there had been an excellent reaction to new products.

Core Group, which specialises in drug delivery techniques, made a flying start at 250p, a premium of 60p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The subdued *money supply figures* and the drop in the purchasing managers' index in February provided an ideal tonic for the bond market. Prices closed higher on the day as fears of an imminent rise in interest rates continued to subside.

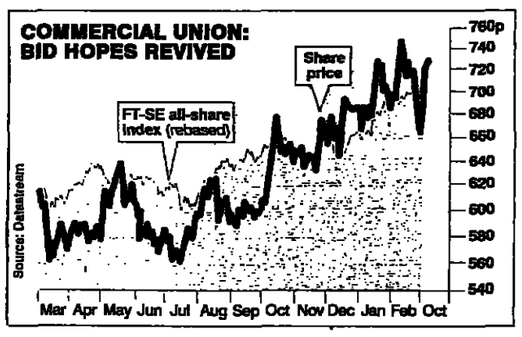
Prices at the longer end had an additional boost from firmer German bunds. The March series of the long gilt climbed five ticks to £112¹₂.

Treasury 8 per cent 2021 was five ticks firmer at £106³¹₃₂, while among shorter dated issues Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was a couple of ticks better at £100³₈.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares were mostly weaker in morning trade under the weight of a softer bond market and in anticipation of testimony once again by Alan Greenspan, Fed Chairman. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 4.23 points lower at 6,873.51.

Tuskar Resources, the oil and gas exploration group based in Dublin, firmed ¼p to 2¾p on the back of a "buy" recommendation from T Hoare, the broker. Hoare is excited by a 40 per cent stake Tuskar has acquired offshore of Nigeria which it says offers significant growth potential.

COMMERCIAL UNION: BID HOPES REVIVED



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):		
Dow Jones	6873.51	(-4.23)
S&P Composite	790.43	(-0.39)
Tokyo:		
Nikkei Average	18429.13	(-127.87)
Hong Kong:		
Hang Seng	13507.28	(+108.56)
Amsterdam:		
EOE Index	736.26	(-1.20)
Sydney:		
AO	2421.2	(-28.7)
Frankfurt:		
DAX	3263.86	(+4.22)
Singapore:		
Straits	2196.34	(+0.64)
Brussels:		
General	11940.30	(+31.67)
Paris:		
CAC-40	2600.26	(-7.29)
Zurich:		
SKA Gen	931.80	(-0.10)
London:		
FT 30	2845.8	(-1.7)
FT 100	4307.1	(-1.2)
FTSE Mid 250	4654.5	(+.01)
FTSE 350	2133.5	(-0.5)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2125.96	(-14.42)
FT All-Share	2107.27	(-0.59)
FT Non Financials	2156.20	(-2.96)
FT Fixed Interest	119.64	(-0.23)
FT Govt Secs	95.84	(-0.28)
Bargains	52704	
SEAQ Volume	1472.9m	
US$	1.6197	(-0.0093)
German Mark	2.7425	(-0.0069)
Exchange Index	98.0	(-0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
£:ECU	n/a	
£:SDR	1.1768	
RPI	154.4 Jan (2.8%)	Jan 1987=100
RPIX	153.9 Jan (3.1%)	Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Anglo-Welsh	111½		...
Aortech	136½		...
C&B Publishing	175		...
Calidore Warrants	1		...
Centrica (75½)	63¾	–	2
Core Group	310		...
Energy Group (525)	526½	+	3
Howie	31½		...
Infobank Intl	148½	+	5½
Nord Anglo Eductn	170	+	½
PSD (A/L)	285	+	1½
Screen	4		...
TR Euro Gwth Wrts	57½		...
Tea Plantins Inv	102		...
Technoplast	106½	–	5½
VFG	41½	+	1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Forward GP	225p (+61p)
Lavendon	232p (+22p)
Pacer Infotech	104½p (+12p)
Page (Micheal)	550p (+55p)
Xenova	355p (+30p)
Country Gdns	170½p (+10p)
Com Union	721p (+38p)
Eng China Cl	222p (+10½p)
Border TV	407½p (+19p)
JBA Hldgs	780p (+30p)
Carlton Comm	541½p (+17p)
Ocean Group	483½p (+15p)
Whitbread	799p (+14½p)
BTG	631p (+26½p)
Aspen Coms	196p (+15p)
C'try Casuals	96½p (+11p)
Wisthrime R	607½p (+10p)
Lex Service	359p (+10½p)
Sage Gp	638p (+15½p)
Stand Chart	866p (+24½p)
Caird Gp	642½p (+15p)

FALLS:

Euro Leisure	183p (-12½p)
MMT Comp	54½p (-34p)
SDX Bus Sys	209½p (-12p)
Rosebys	324½p (-13p)
Druck	274p (-11p)
Chiroscience	397p (-15½p)
Premier Farnell	481½p (-15p)
Bellway	353½p (-10p)
Hays	537p (-14p)
Shield Diag	541p (-14p)
Smithkline	904p (-15p)
Danka Bs Sys	632½p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Turning the Page

WARNINGS do not come much clearer than this. After six years of growth, the directors of Michael Page have decided to cash in their chips. Widely regarded as the gurus of recruitment, their decision to sell out will cause the greed of investors in the sector to melt quickly into fear as they worry about the consequences of hanging on in a bull market.

Predictably, Michael Page yesterday did not deliver its usual message about booming prospects. Instead, phrases like "cold wind of change" tripped off the tongue as the company described a mature market which had passed the half-way mark of the "up" cycle.

Yet, this is unlikely to be enough to cool sentiment in the sector. Recruitment companies are returning record profits. While Michael Page sneaks out the back door, new issues such as Harvey Nash, PSD and Whitehead Mann are making their way in through the front. It would be a mistake to see this as a naked "jump" sign, as Michael Page is not a bellwether. IT headhunters, for example, will enjoy bumper work sorting out computers troubled by the millennium date and the single currency. Meanwhile, a Labour government is more likely to stimulate than depress employment.

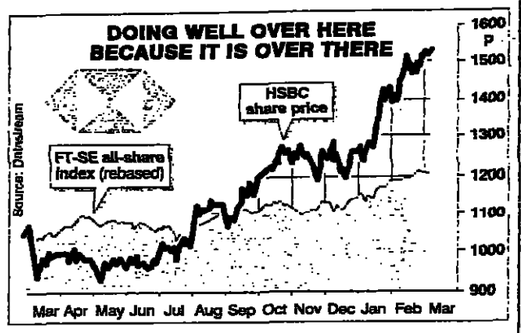
The problem facing Michael Page was not the macro economy but its own fat margins of 20 per cent. In an industry with virtually no barriers to entry, high profitability is an invitation to interlopers. More competition and a mere slowing of growth could lead to price-cutting. It is that prospect that investors should fear and explains why Michael Page is leaving such a fun party well before midnight.

HSBC

IT IS scarcely surprising that Britain's largest quoted company should be a bank: financial services now dominate the stock market to such an extent that even the thriving oil sector is eclipsed. What is more interesting is that this bank earns most of its profit outside the UK and the lion's share from its operations in Hong Kong.

Traditionally, the Hong Kong factor has been a source of anxiety for political reasons but *the more important question is whether* HSBC's exposure to Hong Kong will prove to be an economic rather than political liability. The bank sees little reason for worry, attributing a sudden rise in bad debt provision to a small number of accounts, rather than a trend. The big challenge for HSBC is to extend its reach into other Asian markets, areas where it has been less successful than its smaller rival, Standard Chartered.

If global reach is part of HSBC's charms, its conservatism is doubly reassuring. The banking group has been squeezing its cost/income ratio across the board and it should slip below 50 per cent in the current year. The improvement is most marked in the UK where Midland is gaining market share without throwing money into overhead. If HSBC can maintain the revenue momentum without building more fat into the business, it could make life embarrassing for other retail banks.



Close Bros

THERE is a discreet charm in boutique merchant banks. When all around are setting fire to pound notes, Close Brothers has taught its bigger banking cousins a lesson about costs and the pricing of acquisitions.

Less than a year ago, Close Brothers agreed a reverse takeover of its corporate finance department, paying a few million pounds for the 70-strong Hill Samuel team. Hill Samuel was hardly blue chip but had a client list of 70-80 smaller companies, the sort that provide bread and butter corporate finance business.

The deal has more than paid for itself in the first six months: fee income at the bank has grown by £10 million to £19.2 million, the majority of the gain accounted for by corporate finance. On the strength of the first six months, Hill Samuel was a sensational deal, not least when it is compared with other similar transactions. NatWest is said to have paid £50 million for the more glamorous Hambro Magan, a figure that works out to more than a million pounds per head.

Close Brothers probably paid less than £100,000 per person and saw its corporate finance fee income more than double. Clearly, the Hill Samuel and Close Brothers teams had every incentive to make their merger work. It is less clear whether the gilt-edged incentives at NatWest market will have the same effect.

Hays

HAYS does not sound like a company preparing for a second bite at Christian Salvesen. Salvesen has not had a happy ride since fending off the £1.15 billion bid from Hays last summer and faces a shareholder revolt against its plans to pay a £100 million special dividend and split the company.

However, Ronnie Frost, chairman of Hays, was yesterday talking up the virtues of organic growth — although he did not entirely close the door on a major purchase. It could of course all be a ploy: Salvesen's internal squabbles should keep its share price in limbo, allowing Hays to pounce on the distribution business after the demerger.

But Hays would be better off looking elsewhere. The company wants to expand further in Europe and enlarge its document exchange business. In winning the contract with Kriegbaum, Hays has also demonstrated it has the potential to become a major player in German food distribution.

The currency effect, which will knock about £2 million off full-year profits, will take some of the gloss off this year's results. But Hays is capable of further growth without swallowing Salvesen.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Mar	895-894	May	982 SLR
May	905-904	Jul	995-985
Jul	922-921	Sep	1009-1004
Sep	941-939	Dec	1022 SLR
Dec	948-946		
Mar	968-964		Volume: 6645

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1645-1640	Nov	1630 SLR
May	1652-1650	Jan	1615 SLR
Jul	1653-1650	Mar	1600 SLR
Sep	1645-1635		Volume: 6112

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	304.1-01.9
Spot: unq		Mar	305.0-02.4
May	309.0-08.5	May	307.0-00.2
Aug	308.3-07.1	Jul	unq
Oct	304.3-02.6		Volume: 812

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average livestock prices at representative markets on February 28

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	81.27	145.59	99.17
(+/-)	+0.35	+0.68	-1.53
Eng/Wales:	81.27	147.93	98.62
(+/-)	-0.35	+2.37	-1.69
(%)	+14.0	-6.0	-5.0
Scotland:	unq	137.90	103.12
(+/-)		137.90	n/c
(%)		+41.0	-17.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.00	-0.35
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.85	-0.45
Brent 15 day (May)	18.60	-0.30
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.25	-0.40
W Texas Intermediate (May)	20.00	-0.45

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	203 (-1)	207 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	160 (-4)	161 (-4)
3.5 Fuel Oil	84 (n/c)	86 (n/c)
Naphtha	191 (-5)	195 (-3)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Mar	160.00-60.25	Jun	164.25-64.50
Apr	161.75-62.00	Jul	166.00-66.25
May	163.25 BID		Vol: 14574

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	18.72-18.75	Jul	18.28-18.32
May	18.48 SLR	Aug	18.24 BID
Jun	18.36 SLR		Vol: 30780

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	97.20	Mar	92.00
May	100.10	May	93.50
Jul	102.50	Sep	91.50
Sep	93.50	Nov	93.50
Nov	95.50	Jan	95.50
Volume: 773		Volume: 24	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	64.5	64.2
May	69.0	69.0
Jun	unq	74.5
	Volume: 49	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Mar 79.25-79.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 97	1450	1445	1445
Apr 97	1500	1490	1492
May 97	1460	1457	1457
Jul 97	1255	1240	1255
Vol: 177 lots		Open Interest: 2848	
		Index 1430 -13	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash: 2450.0-2451.0	3mth: 2380.0-2390.0	Vol: 1409275
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)			
Lead ($/tonne)	718.00-718.50	700.00-700.50	644700
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1206.0-1207.0	1221.0-1221.5	424800
Tin ($/tonne)	5745.0-5750.0	5795.0-5800.0	27800
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1645.0-1645.5	1671.0-1671.5	1631675
Nickel ($/tonne)	8110.0-8120.0	8205.0-8210.0	81678

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Allid Dom	420	23½	31½	38½	8	19	23½
(*432½)	460	6	13	21	31	42½	46½
ASDA	110	6	9	10½	2½	5½	8
(*112)	120	1½	4½	6½	9	10½	12½
Boots	650	39	52	58	6½	17½	23½
(*679½)	700	10½	24	32	28	42½	48½
Br Airways	600	49½	60½	69½	5	15	20½
(*641)	650	18½	32	41½	22½	36½	43
BP	650	37½	53	62½	8½	23	27
(*676)	700	12½	28	38	32½	44½	52
Br Steel	140	14	17½	19	1½	6	7½
(*151½)	160	3	7½	9	10½	17½	19
C & W	500	20½	34	42½	16	29	36
(*501½)	550	4	15	22½	50½	60	66
CU	700	37	65½	78	32	54	73
(*717½)	750	18½	46	57½	64½	83½	102½
ICI	700	47	66½	75	5	13	21
(*737½)	750	17½	36½	47	32½	53	63½
Land Sec	750	48½	59	67	3	15½	20
(*789½)	800	15½	27	39½	20½	40	44½
M & S	480	42½	49	56	3	9	11
(*497½)	500	24	33	32½	14	24½	27½
Nat West	700	43	65½	73	10	32	32½
(*728)	750	17	38½	47	33	65½	58
Safeway plc	360	17	25	31	8½	20	23½
(*369)	390	5½	12	18½	26½	36	42
Sainsbury	300	17	22½	27	6½	15	17
(*308)	330	4½	9½	14½	23½	33½	35
Shell	1000	50½	59	74	19	33	41½
(*1035½)	1050	21	34½	48½	46½	59	68
Smkl Bch	900	36½	61	77	28	44½	54
(*905½)	950	15½	39½	54	57½	72½	81½
Storehse	300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	1800	78½	129½	162	54½	79	98½
(*1835)	1900	38½	87½	115	113	134	151½

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAT Ind	500	49	56	66	9½	20½	30
(*546)	550	18½	33½	38½	33½	44	55½
Vodafone	280	22½	31½	37½	6	13	17½
(*294)	300	11	21	27½	14½	22½	27

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	420	43	51	57	4½	9½	13½
(*453½)	460	17	26½	33½	19	26½	30
Ladbroke	220	13½	20	24	7½	10	13
(*229)	240	5	11	14½	18	21	23½
Utd Bsc	240	10½	17	22½	13½	16½	21½
(*241)	260	4	10	15	28	30	34

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	500	42½	52	57	2	10½	14
(*535½)	550	11½	22½	29	21	32½	36
Thames W	650	46½	67	69	11	31½	34
(*685)	700	18½	40½	43	30½	58	60

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BTR	240	13½	18½	22	12½	16	19
(*243)	260	6	11	14	26	28½	31
Br Aero	1250	78½	110½	130½	26	42½	54
(*1295)	1300	51½	84	103½	48	65½	76
Br Telcm	420	23	31	34½	11	24	26½
(*426½)	460	6½	14½	17½	36	50½	52½
Cadbury	500	22	34½	39½	19	26½	29½
(*508½)	550	6	16	21	55½	59½	61
Guinness	420	40	46	50	6	11½	13½
(*456½)	460	12½	23½	28	34	38	43½
GEC	380	29	36	40	6	14	17½
(*377½)	390	12½	19½	25	19½	29½	33
Hanson	260	24	29½	32½	7	8	11
(*272)	280	12½	18	21½	15½	16½	20
LASMO	220	25	32½	36½	5	7	9
(*234)	240	14½	22	25½	12	14½	17
LucasVarity	300	13	19	22	9	11½	15½
(*303)	320	5	10½	14	21	23	27½
Pilkington	140	8	12	—	9½	10	—
(*141½)	160	3	5	—	19	23½	—
Prudential	550	32	46	53	18½	27	34
(*570)	600	11½	24	33	49	56	62
Redland	330	34	37½	45	9	14	20
(*354½)	360	16	21½	30	24½	29½	35½
R-Royce	220	23	28½	32½	7½	11½	13½
(*234½)	240	12	18½	22½	17	21½	23½
Tesco	330	20½	27	32½	11½	16	19½
(*340½)	360	7	14	19½	29½	33	36½
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4305)

4200	4250	4300	4350	4400	4450

Calls				Puts		
Mar	114½	75	44	21½	8½	2
Apr	142½	109	78	55½	35	20½
May	169	136	103	79	56½	41½
Jun	199	167½	136½	111	85	64
Dec	305	—	243	—	193	—
Puts						
Mar	19	32	50½	80	117½	164
Apr	49½	65	84½	112	143½	179½
May	68	85½	103½	131	159	193
Jun	88½	106½	126	150	176	207
Dec	146	—	182½	—	232½	—

	Series	Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Abby Nat	700	50½	67½	78	11½	24	33
(*749)	750	17½	41	51½	32½	47½	56½
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1050	64½	92	110	11½	26	40
(*1097)	1100	34	67½	83	30½	46½	62
Natl Pwr	450	47	—	—	4	—	—
(*492½)	500	14	33½	30½	19½	39	42½

	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo W	1000	54	76	93½	19½	35	47½
(*1043½)	1050	24½	49	67½	43	59	72
HSBC	1500	67½	119½	145½	37	71	95
(*1551½)	1600	24½	73	99½	95½	126	148½
Reuter	650	23½	44½	54	24½	35½	42
(*653½)	700	7½	24½	33½	59½	67	72
Royal & Sun	460	37½	45½	54	6½	16	21
(*494½)	500	11½	25	33½	26½	35½	41

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Blue Circ	390	23½	30½	36½	15	20	25½
(*401½)	420	9½	17½	23	33	37½	42

	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Kingfishr	650	51½	62½	71½	13	22	27
(*690½)	700	21	35½	45	37½	44½	51

	Series	Mar	Jun		Mar	Jun	
Br Gas	220	18	23	—	1½	10½	—
(*234½)	240	4½	12	—	7½	20½	—

	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Dixons	500	34	52	60	2	12½	21½
(*531)	550	9½	24½	33½	22½	35	45½
EMI Group	1150	30½	73½	98	16½	45	65
(*1160½)	1200	11	50	71½	46	70½	91
Tarmac	100	4½	7½	10½	1½	6	8½
(*102)	110	1	3½	6½	8	12½	13½
Hillsdown	160	15½	19	20½	0	5	6½
(*194)	200	3½	7	10	6½	10	17
Lonrho	140	7½	13	16½	2	6	8
(*145½)	160	0½	4½	8	15	17½	19½
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	280	6½	19½	24	3½	11	17½
(*284)	300	1	10½	14	16½	22	28
Lloyds TSB	500	11½	33	43	9½	23	30½
(*501½)	550	0½	13½	22½	48½	54½	60
Scot Pwr	353	9	—	—	4½	—	—
(*357)	360	5	19	25	7½	16½	24
Unilever	1500	58	83½	108½	12	34½	50
(*1547½)	1600	8½	36	63½	59	89	103½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Mar 97	112.17	112.18	112.07	112.16	57292
Previous open interest: 270490	Jun 97	112.01	112.02	111.16	112.00	56302
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Mar 97	103.32	103.47	103.20	103.36	168912
Previous open interest: 334695	Jun 97	102.50	102.65	102.34	102.55	89668
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Mar 97	127.95	128.14	126.95	128.00	62930
Previous open interest: 131769	Jun 97	127.35	127.83	126.70	127.80	63259
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Mar 97	126.32	126.33	126.24	126.27	2026
	Jun 97	124.80	124.85	124.77	124.80	2594
Three Mth Sterling	Mar 97	93.71	93.73	93.70	93.72	10388
	Jun 97	93.46	93.48	93.43	93.47	19542
Previous open interest: 521498	Sep 97	93.24	93.26	93.21	93.24	14463
Three Mth Euromark	Mar 97	96.77	96.78	96.76	96.77	15139
Previous open interest: 1251383	Apr 97	96.79	96.79	96.79	96.79	50
Three Mth Eurolira	Mar 97	92.66	92.68	92.57	92.65	15947
Previous open interest: 291045	Jun 97	93.03	93.11	93.09	93.09	43957
Three Mth Euroyen	Jun 97	99.39	99.39	99.39	99.39	500
	Sep 97	99.31	99.31	99.28	99.31	570
Three Mth Euroswiss	Mar 97	98.30	98.31	98.27	98.28	2057
Previous open interest: 105848	Jun 97	98.33	98.37	98.33	98.33	2277
Three Mth ECU	Mar 97	95.76	95.76	95.72	95.76	1768
Previous open interest: 34281	Jun 97	95.77	95.79	95.73	95.77	1388
FTSE 100	Mar 97	4270.0	4298.0	4270.0	4291.0	10571
Previous open interest: 67263	Jun 97	4290.0	4312.5	4290.0	4311.0	1904

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6½

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6 Low 5¾ Week fixed: 5¹⁵₁₆

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¹⁵₁₆ : 3 mth 6 . Sell: 2 mth 5¹³₁₆ : 3 mth: 5¹⁵₁₆ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5¹⁵₁₆-5¹₁₆	6-5¹⁵₁₆	6¼-5¹¹₁₆	6⅛-6¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	6¼-5¹¹₁₆	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¹¹₁₆-6¹₁₆	6¹¹₁₆-6¼
Interbank:	6¼-5¹¹₁₆	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6¹¹₁₆-6¹¹₁₆	6¹¹₁₆-6¼

Overnight: open 5¾, close 5¾ .

Local Authority Deps:	6	n/a	6¼
Sterling CDs:	6¼-5¹⁵₁₆	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛
Dollar CDs:	5.35	n/a	5.45
Building Society CDs:	6¼-6	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5¹⁵₁₆-5¾	5¹⁵₁₆-5¹³₁₆	5¹⁵₁₆-5¹³₁₆	5¹⁵₁₆-5¹¹₁₆	5-4
Deutschemark:	3¼-2⅞	3¼-3	3¼-3⅛	3¼

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Asda flows to the rescue

NOT slow to make the most of a business opportunity, Asda came quickly to the rescue of householders in Hertfordshire yesterday after an outbreak of stomach infections linked to contaminated water. The supermarket chain sent out more than 34,000 gallons of its bottled Yorkshire Water, fresh from the Pennines, to stores affected by Three Valley Water's alert. It cut the price of its two-litre Farm Stores bottled water by 6p and insisted that fresh produce be washed in the bottled or boiled variety.

Missing link

NEVER work with animals, children, or video links to Germany. John Edmonds, GMB general-secretary, was yesterday due to announce a trade union "first" — a mutual benefits link-up with Germany's IG Chemie-Papier-Keramik — using a live TV link between London and Hanover. But as Edmonds drummed his fingers in the gloomy surroundings of London's National Liberal Club, all that appeared on screen was an enticing image of a table, hardly a metre from the camera. Edmonds eventually resorted to good old-fashioned steam talk.



"Have your shares really taken a tumble — or is it merely a mispricing error"

Food for thought

NEWS of a £50 million black hole is music to Sam Jaffa's ears. The BBC business correspondent's latest book, *Safe As Houses*, chronicling financial scoundrels who have worked in the City since the 17th century, comes out next month. He starts with the South Sea Bubble and goes through to Guinness, BCCI, and Barings. "The thing with fraud stories is that it's always pretty good timing — there's always likely to be one," he says. Jaffa tells me that fraudsters share characteristics; they don't need much sleep and eat everything or nothing. Over lunch with a contact, former insider trader Ivan Boesky supped on a single grape.

RONALD Gould stood down yesterday as chief executive of Barclay Trust, the bank's retail asset management arm. The official line from Barclays is that he resigned "to further his career somewhere else". Something of a coup for internal promotions — Jane Platt, Gould's former deputy and a former chief operating officer of an arm of BZW, will step into his shoes.

Most wanted

STEPHEN Robinson was a wanted man on Sunday night. When Hicks Muse Tate & Furst — under the guise of PCB Investments — said it would buy Forward Group for £129 million, a car was sent out to hunt down the electronics analyst at Birmingham-based Albert E Sharp. Robinson was bundled on a train to London for an early morning meeting with Forward. Raymond Chamberlain, chairman of the electronics firm, got what he was after — his favourite analyst, and a follower of Forward for almost three years.

MORAG PRESTON



Nick Leeson generated lucrative bonuses for himself and his bosses. However, senior executives often seem able to walk away when things go wrong

Bank takes up arms against the 'mother of all positions'

Jon Ashworth and **Robert Miller** report on efforts to rein in the City's bonus culture

Sir Andrew Large, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, has spoken about the dangers of paying inflated sums to City high-flyers. A few months ago he said: "Issues do arise about the balance between paying stars competitively in order to retain the best, on the one hand, and the risk of incentivising such people to behaviour that is harmful and can lead to serious damage, long term, to the firm as a whole."

Now, the Bank of England has fanned the flames with its imagery of reckless dealers risking all in a desperate last punt for that massive bonus. If the gamble pays off, they are in the money. If it goes wrong, it is the firm that pays. Throw in a case of Krug and a Porsche 944, and it could be the daredevil Eighties all over again.

The Bank is right, of course, in highlighting the dangers inherent in the bonus system. But it is wrong to *assume that the City has degenerated* into a vast, unregulated, saloon bar, filled with traders playing the financial equivalent of Russian roulette. No one wants to be the next Barings, and firms are monitoring trades with unequivocal passion. Traders do take risks, but that is the way the City works.

What the Bank is doing, in its *Financial Stability Review*, is delivering a stern admonition; a well-timed rap on the knuckles from the headmaster. Watch those bonuses, it implores. Give star dealers a free rein, but don't let those trades run away with themselves. Make sure those risk-monitoring systems are up to scratch.

The point was amplified yesterday by Howard Davies, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, who told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme: "We don't want to stop them taking risks. We want them to look at the way their payment incentive systems, which are very powerful drivers of behaviour, interact with their risk controls.

"It doesn't make much sense to have a bonus system which persuades traders to take on more and more risky deals, and then a rather weak risk control system that comes along afterwards to check that they are behaving themselves.

"We are pointing out in the report that the way the traders are paid is often a one-way bet with the individual. They get paid more if they take more risks, but if it goes wrong the employer, rather than the employee, loses. They should restructure schemes to make it more related to long-term rather than short-term efficiency."

Many firms would argue that they are doing precisely that. It is becoming increasingly common for firms to award half the bonus in cash, with the balance in shares in the firm, locked in for three years. This both incentivises the trader, and makes it more expensive for rivals to buy out staff.

Another trend sees firms moving closer to the old partnership ethos, in which a trader who makes £10 million would receive, perhaps, £1 million, with the rest ploughed back into the firm. If the same trader lost heavily the following year, some of the money would be clawed back. This culture would further discourage reckless risk-taking.

One point that is often missed, is that bonuses are not just about who makes the most money. Someone who takes a smaller risk using less capital stands to *earn a bigger bonus than someone who* uses more capital on a riskier punt. The quality of the profit is what counts. There is also often a team element, in which the head of a trading desk will be given a sum to distribute among his colleagues.

This said, the Bank is clearly correct in highlighting the potential dangers of profit targets — the minimum amount needed to trigger a bonus. As one trader said: "If your target is £1 million, you're at £900,000, and you have a week to go, are you going to take the mother of all positions? Yes!" The need is for "real-time" vetting, in which trades and positions are monitored on a daily basis, if not hourly. The sheer complexity of modern financial markets makes this increasingly difficult.

Attention is currently focused on the £50 million "black hole" at NatWest Markets, which stirred the bonus pot last October when it bought J O Hambro Magan, the highly successful corporate finance boutique. NatWest refused to confirm the price tag, but market speculation, never denied, put the basic deal at £20 million, a sum that could grow to £150 million after 120 staff of the combined operation were locked in by "golden handcuffs". Some of those contracts are said to be worth as much as £2 million each for the best performers.

Since its launch in 1988 and its purchase by NatWest Markets, Hambro Magan has advised on transactions with a total value of more than £18 billion. Many market commentators argue, however, that the mergers and acquisitions (M&A) market is near its peak, with deals in the pipeline that will take up to two years to come to fruition. By then the M&A market will have cooled and NatWest may be faced with an enormously high salary and guaranteed bonus structure that is no longer appropriate to the more straightened times in that particular business. City watchdogs are keen to pin down the responsibility of those at the top of the management tree who benefit from handsome bonuses made by traders within their businesses, but who appear to be able to walk away in the event that something goes wrong.

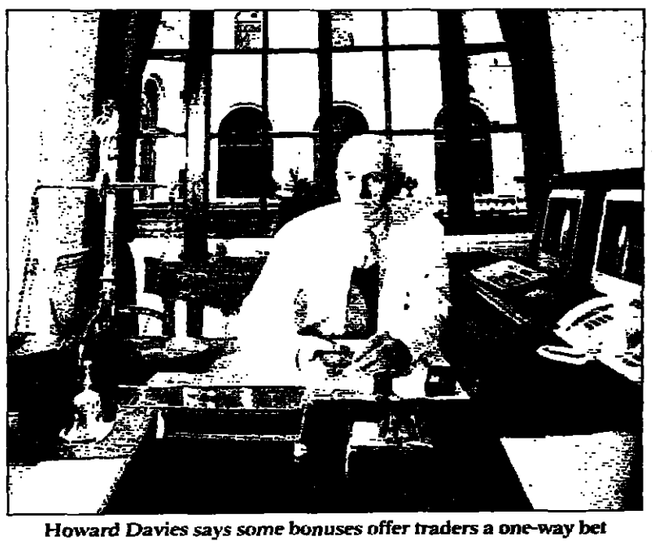
The most obvious example is that of Peter Baring and Andrew Tuckey, respectively chairman and deputy chairman of Barings at the time of its £830 million collapse. Both had earned bonuses in previous years derived from profits in large measure generated by Nick Leeson's trading in the Far East money markets.

The Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the regulator for brokers and futures traders, found that while it could pursue disciplinary action against other senior Barings managers, there was insufficient evidence to pursue Messrs Baring and Tuckey. It is as a result of this inability to be *seen to pin responsibility on the two most* senior figures in charge of Barings at the time of the crash that the SFA board will meet next week to discuss its proposals to introduce new guidelines on the role and executive responsibilities of directors in the City.

Another distinguishing feature of the latest row over City's bonuses this time round, compared with the mid-to-late 1980s, is that fund managers have now entered the fray. Whereas traders and dealers in the securities and futures and options markets have always been able to earn £1 million-plus bonuses in good years, it is only in more recent times that fund managers have become much sought after. Nicola Horlick, the former Morgan Grenfell fund manager, helped to put the spotlight on this particular sector after it emerged that she had walked away (although she claimed constructive dismissal) from accumulated bonuses worth about £2 million.

The switch of emphasis to fund managers is a natural evolution. City houses have seen profits from traditional trading activities in the market fluctuate wildly. Therefore, they reasoned, if they could gain sufficient funds to manage these, it would generate useful annual fee income without the market volatility.

Talk of a bonus meltdown may be a little premature. Ronnie Fox, the leading City employment lawyer, said: "The threat is a bit exaggerated. Traders take risks because that is what they are paid to do. In my experience, the banks are very well aware of the risks." Whether their systems will ever be able to pick up on deliberate market manipulation is another matter entirely.



Howard Davies says some bonuses offer traders a one-way bet



ANATOLE KALETSKY

A question of real values

Last month I wrote an article which compared Britain's long-term record of monetary management with that of Germany, France and Japan. Specifically I said that British monetary policy had been more successful at protecting the value of long-term savings. *As I expected*, this provoked a large number of incredulous and indignant letters. Since I am sure that the dismay and scepticism expressed by my correspondents is shared by many other readers — and since I made at least two arithmetical errors on February 14 — I thought it worthwhile to devote another article to clarifying some of my points about the long-term performance of savings in Britain.

First let me repeat my main assertions. According to the official index of retail prices, *the pound in 1995* had a purchasing power equal to about one fifteenth of its 1951 value and about one twentieth of its value of 1900. More precisely, the 1995 pound was worth 5.3 per cent of its value in 1918. This may seem like a terrible debasement, but it actually represented a perfectly decent performance, both in comparison with other countries and in relation to the returns paid on British investments in the long-term. Now let me answer some questions readers have raised.

*How could I say that a 20-*fold debasement of the currency is a "perfectly decent performance"? The answer lies in the magic of compound interest. The 20-fold *increase in prices recorded* since 1918 translates into an average annual inflation rate of only 3.9 per cent. (Unfortunately in the February 14 article I gave an incorrect figure of 4.7 per cent — a consequence of mislaying my much-prized financial calculator).

Compound interest is not just a statistical curiosity — it protects investors from inflation by providing very high total returns over long periods of time. A saver who bought government bonds in 1919 and reinvested all interest payments in additional purchases of gilts would have earned an annual return of 1.9 per cent *above inflation* from 1919 to 1995. This means that £1,000 invested in gilts in 1919 would be worth £4,200 today in terms of the retail prices prevailing in 1919. The original investment would have grown to £80,000 in actual cash value by 1995. (The figure of £200,000 I gave in the February 14 article was *wrong because of my error* on the long-term rate of inflation).

Of course this long-term investment growth would only have been achieved by reinvesting each year's interest payments in more gilt-edged securities. You cannot reinvest your income and live on it *at the same time*. To do that you have to take the risk of buying real assets — such as property or shares. Anyone who did that in Britain has been handsomely rewarded in the long-term. Many of the people who believe they were "robbed" by *inflation* conveniently forget about the profits they have made by owning their homes and the very generous returns they have received, from private pension funds and the National Insurance system, largely at the expense of the younger generation.

The returns I quoted also made no allowance for tax. After tax, a British saver who kept all his money in interest-paying securities would have seen a fall in the real value of his investments, certainly in the post-war period. But then, most taxpayers in postwar Britain kept fixed-interest investments in tax shelters such as pension funds or Lloyd's.

Some readers have *made another objection* to my statement that long-term investments in Britain have comfortably retained their real value. They have pointed out that some things — particular wages and property prices — have risen much more than 20-fold since the prewar years. This is perfectly true. Wages and real assets (such as property and shares) are bound to rise faster than retail prices in an economy that is enjoying real growth. But this has nothing to do with inflation or bad monetary management. On the contrary, growing real wages and rising real asset prices are a measure of long-run economic success.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Losing points over Trade Fair Support Scheme changes

From the Shadow Small Business Minister

Sir, Anthony Nelson is quite wrong to attack the deputy chairman of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council for 'missing the point' on the changes to the Trade Fair Support Scheme (Business Letters, February 25). The minister's remarks are, if I may so, typical of this Government's 'we know best' approach to business support.

It is surely Mr Nelson who misses the point. If he had read the original letter — and, if his postbag is anything like mine, the many letters from trade organisations and others which have flooded in since the Government made its announcement — he would be aware of their very strong sense of anger about this decision. To give just one example, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce wrote to me of the 'dire consequences for the UK's export effort and the jobs which depend upon it'.

Ian Campbell, Director-General of the Institute of Export, says that ministers have 'totally disregarded' the views of industry. In contrast, Labour has spent recent years listening to and working in partnership with British businesses to formulate our policies. We are determined to provide proper export support for small firms from existing resources, and we will be continuing to talk to business about how to achieve this.

Yours faithfully,

BARBARA ROCHE,

Member for Hornsey and Wood Green (Labour),
House of Commons,
SW1.

Sir John and BAA aware of public concern over proposed Terminal 5

From the Director, Corporate and Public Affairs, BAA plc

Sir, Mr Arthur Charlesworth (letter, January 29) accuses Sir John Egan of overlooking public reaction to the proposed Terminal 5 at Heathrow.

Gallup have now conducted five major opinion polls in the area, and each has shown a clear majority in support of T5, increasing with each poll. Sir John and BAA are not complacent about the public inquiry. It will, after all, take longer and cost more than any public inquiry in history, so we can hardly be unaware both of the need to make the case and to address the concerns of the local community.

However, we also remain of the view that there is no alternative to T5 if we are to meet the demand for air travel in the 21st century, and that the powerful economic and other arguments for the terminal are well balanced by the steps we are taking to improve public transport, reduce the effect of noise, and take political steps on environmental issues.

Yours faithfully,

DES WILSON,

Director, Corporate and Public Affairs,
BAA plc,
130 Wilton Road,
SW1.

Billing change belies promise made to customers after Gas demerger

From J. E. Redmall

Sir, A full-page advertisement by *British Gas claims that* demerger would not result in any immediate changes to the service it provided to its customers. This needs to be taken with a pinch of salt.

For as long as I can remember I have been able to pay the cost of gas supply and of my service contract in one bill. On November 21, 1996, the business director of British Gas *Home Energy wrote to me* — and no doubt to many others — to say that, because of changes to the billing system, on renewal of the service agreement, customers would be asked to pay for gas and service on separate bills. I could, however, continue to receive one bill if I paid by direct pay as I had done for over a year.

I expected therefore when my service cover was renewed to be given the option of continued payment with my gas supply through direct pay. But no. On December 31 I was asked to pay by lump sum in advance and was not given the option I had been promised in the letter of November 21. I replied objecting and drawing *attention to that letter*.

On February 10 British Gas Home Energy replied regretting that I was misinformed in the letter of November 21 and saying that the option of *paying monthly for both gas* usage and service was not now possible. They added, and this is where my specific complaint about British Gas's advertisement comes in, "It is *unfortunate that the needs of* customers were not wholly catered for in the overall demerger fo (sic) the different trading arms of British Gas."

So how much trust can customers place in any of the assurances given in the advertisement? I should add that I am pursuing the matter with the chairman of British Gas and with the Gas Consumers Council.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. REDMALL
The Senge House,
Farm Lane,
Ditchling,
Hassocks,
West Sussex.

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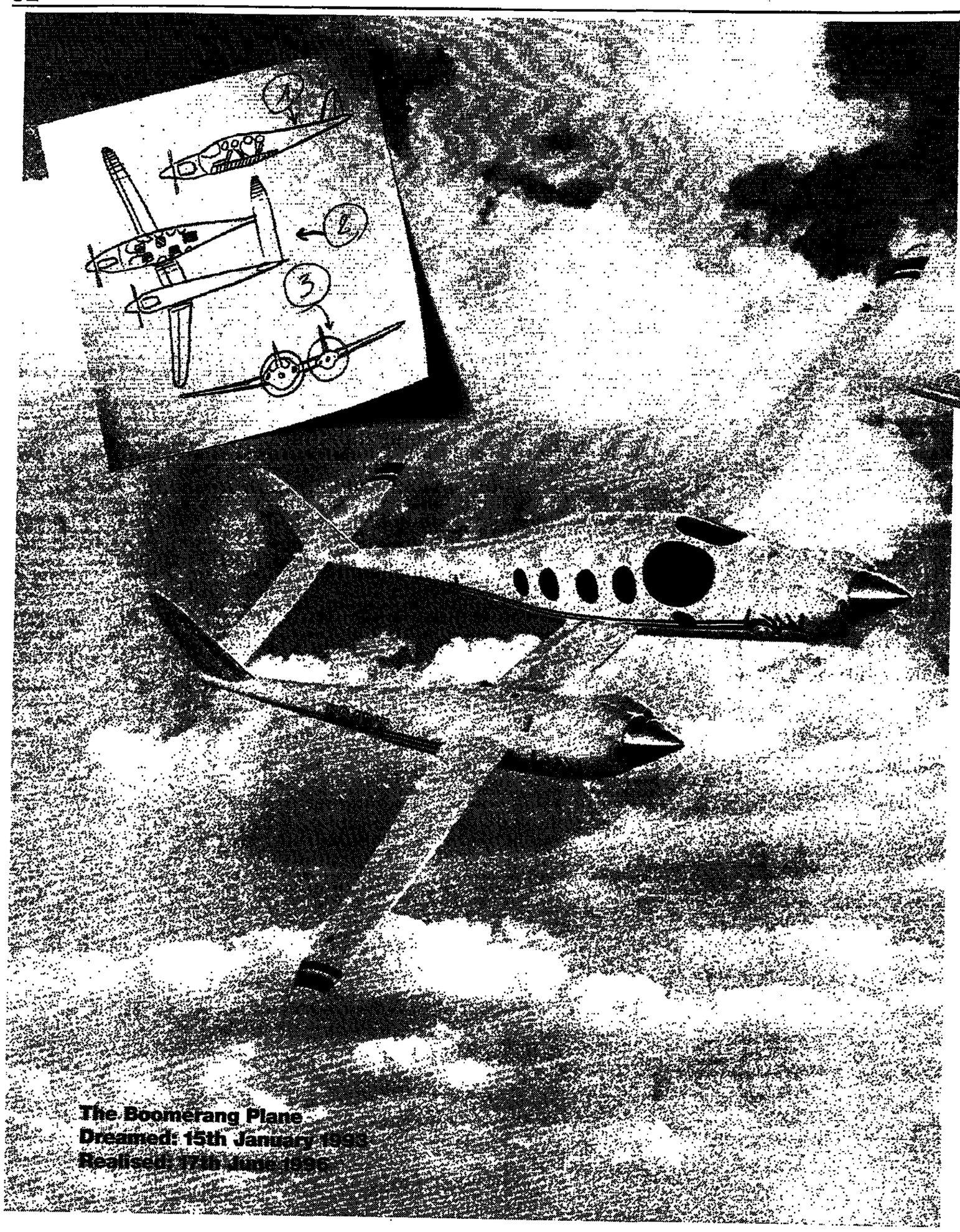
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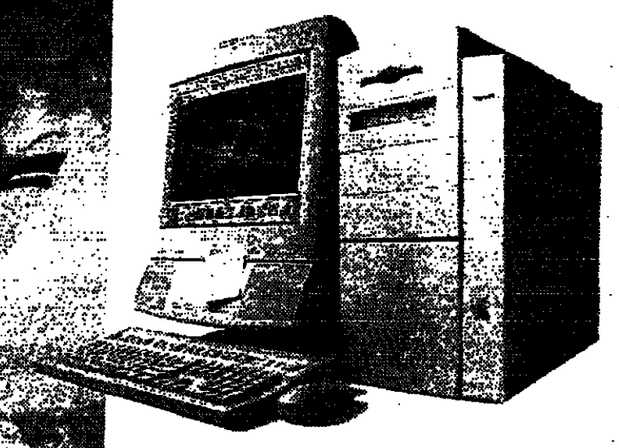
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Give your dreams a chance.

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Superheroes enlisted as Bluebird profits fall

By Martin Barrow

BLUEBIRD TOYS, one of Britain's last independent toy manufacturers, suffered a sharp fall in profits last year. The company blamed excess stocks of Polly Pocket, its enduring best-selling miniature dolls, in its main markets at the beginning of the year, adversely affecting orders.

Despite the setback, Polly Pocket, launched in 1990, remains second only to Barbie in popularity among girls' toys and the company remains confident the overstocking has been overcome. It is also adding to its Superheroes range. Yesterday, the company reported a decline in 1996 pre-tax profits to £9.9 million from £17.8 million in the previous year on sales that fell to £67.7 million from £87.3 million. Earnings were 16.4p a share, down from 24.2p. The total dividend is maintained at 9p a share, with an unchanged final of 6.75p.

Despite the profits reverse, the shares rose 2½p to 185p yesterday. However, they remain well adrift of last year's high of 357p, struck when the company was at the centre of takeover speculation. Hasbro, the American toy manufacturer, has a 6.7 per cent interest in Bluebird. The company, which also has strong trading links with Mattel, yesterday announced the appointment of Barry Thomas as logistics director after 12 years with Hasbro UK.

Bluebird, whose range of toys also includes old favourites such as Etch-a-Sketch and Plasticine, took an exceptional charge of £1.1 million against restructuring, which included the company's withdrawal from manufacturing at Merthyr Tydfil with the loss of 88 jobs.

Martin Bunting, chairman, said: "We have a very focused, newly streamlined and cash generative business which should allow us to capitalise on the many opportunities for the continued development of Bluebird."

An agreement with Toy Biz, another American company, will see Bluebird adding the Incredible Hulk, X-Men, Iron Man, Silver Surfer and The Fantastic Four, the Marvel cartoon characters, to its Superheroes range.

Bluebird, based in Swindon, Wiltshire, bought back 12.9 per cent of its share capital during 1996, at a cost of £14.5 million and plans to seek authorisation for another buyback at its annual meeting. It had net cash of £26 million.

Gremlich to check out of Millennium hotel group

By Alasdair Murray

EDOUARD GREMLICH, who steered Millennium & Copthorne Hotels on to the stock market last year, is to step down as chief executive to return to the United States.

The hotel company said yesterday that it was beginning a search for a replacement, although Mr Gremlich would remain in place until a successor is found.

The announcement came as Millennium & Copthorne unveiled a 63 per cent rise in full-year profits to £39 million, the company's first full set of results since floating last April. Shares in the company rose 6½p to 383p, compared with a flotation price of 278p.

Turnover jumped 13 per cent to £180 million, while gearing stood at 49 per cent at the end of December 1996. Millennium owns a total of 23 hotels in the UK, France, Germany and the US as well as a 42 per cent stake in the Plaza hotel in New York.

Group occupancy rose from 76.5 per cent to 76.8 per cent, while the average room rate increased 10.6 per cent to £76.98. The total yield rose 11 per cent to £59.12.

Occupancy levels in London fell slightly to 83.5 per cent, although the yield rose 12 per cent to £60.35. Millennium said that it aimed to open a new conference venue, which will be the fourth largest in London, at the Gloucester and Bailey's and also hopes to add a conference and banqueting suite at the Britannia.

Regional UK hotels improved occupancy 1.4 percentage points to 74.8 per cent, with the room rate rising 13.6 per cent to £57.03. New York hotels also continued to benefit from the buoyancy of the US market, with occupancy rising from 72.5 per cent to 76.9 per cent and room rates growing 3.5 per cent to £117.09.

Growth in the rest of Europe was hampered by difficult trading conditions, with occupancy levels in France and Germany falling 4.8 percentage points to 61.8 per cent. The average room rates increased 8 per cent in spite of the rising pound.

Kwek Leng Beng, chairman, said that the company is well positioned to continue growing in 1997. He added that the hotel group will focus on organic growth, but is prepared to take advantage of acquisition opportunities.

Millennium is to pay a final dividend of 4p, taking the total for the eight months since flotation to 4.7p, on April 15.

TONY WHITE



Sculpting growth: Kwek Leng Beng, chairman, says the company is well positioned

European Leisure pays out

By Alasdair Murray

EUROPEAN LEISURE is set to pay its first dividend for six years after unveiling a 37 per cent increase in half-year pre-tax profits to £3 million.

Ian Rock, chief executive, said sales had remained strong in the second half and the group was confident of an improved performance over the full year.

Turnover rose 14 per cent to £42 million. Profits in the entertainment and snooker division were flat at £3.6 million, with sales in bars and discos improving only modestly. European Leisure said it is aiming to add three new Berlins or Liberty brand bars and eight new Rileys American pool and snooker sites this year.

Maygay, the amusement machine division, more than doubled profits to £1.4 million boosted by the deregulation measures that were introduced last year. The succesful rights issue in October helped to reduce gearing to 57 per cent from 90 per cent in 1995.

Shares in the company slipped back 12½p to close at 183p, compared with a rights issue price of 145p. The company will pay an interim dividend of 1p on July 3.

Cornwell Parker in the black

CORNWELL PARKER, the furniture company, says that markets remain "extremely difficult and unforgiving". However, restructuring has left it better placed to face unpredictable conditions, said James Moore, chief executive.

There was a pre-tax profit of £7.3 million in the half year to January 31, including a £4.23 million surplus on property disposals. The previous first half saw a £3.37 million loss. The dividend rises to 1p, from 0.3p.

Cooper sale

Frederick Cooper, the industrial holding company, says its sale of Park Rubber for £2.9 million to an undisclosed buyer is the first step in disposing of companies in its architectural products division. In the year to July 31, Park made pre-tax profit of £35,000 on £7.06 million turnover.

Olivetti deal

Olivetti's sale of Olivetti Personal Computers to Piedmont requires that Piedmont be represented on Olivetti's administrative board. The representative, Alessandro Barberis, will ensure continuity in the business during its transfer.

Brunner better

Brunner Mond, the chemicals group floated in September, had a 20 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £8.9 million, in the half year to December 31. The first dividend is 2.9p.

Howden buys

Hopkinsons Group has sold the compressor and blower business of its Bryan Donkin engineering division to James Howden & Co for £1.43 million.

HTV stake

Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, has decided not to refer United News & Media's acquisition of a minority stake in HTV to the Monopolies Commission.

BP and Shell find oilfield

By Carl Mortished

BP and Shell have made a new oil discovery about 100 miles west of the Shetlands near the existing "Atlantic Margin" oil fields of Foinaven and Schiehallion.

BP said yesterday that an exploration well in block 204/19 had encountered potentially commercial volumes of hydrocarbons in water depths of 850 metres.

The find is the first in the area since BP discovered Schiehallion — an oilfield with a potential 500 million recoverable barrels — about four years ago.

Intensive drilling activity by BP, Shell and other major oil companies had thus far failed to make further breakthroughs. BP said yesterday that no tests had been conducted on the well, but examination of the cores confirmed the existence of hydrocarbons.

Richard Oliver, deputy chief executive of BP Exploration, said that further work was needed to establish whether oil could be recovered in commercial quantities.

In response to the discovery of the oilfield, which has been named Suilven after a Scottish mountain, the DTI is releasing two new blocks for exploration to the north of the find.

BP's announcement has revived hopes in the Shetlands that further discoveries could lead to a pipeline being built to the islands' Sullom Voe oil terminal. However, indications from BP suggest that no such conclusion could yet be drawn from the Suilven find.

Float gives Girovend £20.8m tag

GIROVEND Cashless Systems, which assembles and supplies electronic cashless payment systems, is seeking a listing on the London Stock Exchange by way of a placing.

The placing is by the issue and allotment of 4.69 million new ordinary shares, representing 36 per cent of the issued share capital of the company. The placing price is 160p, giving a market capitalisation of £20.8 million. Collins Stewart is broker to the issue and published the prospectus for the flotation yesterday.

The company is raising £7 million, net of expenses, with £5.7 million of the proceeds to be used to redeem bank and loan stock debt.

Girovend was founded in Germany in 1979 as Micro-Datensysteme.

Oracle helps land Sherwood deal

By Fraser Nelson

SHERWOOD International, the restructured business software company, has secured its first deal through its strategic alliance with Oracle, which will be worth up to £1 million per year.

The company, which joined forces with Oracle, the software group, last year, has licensed its flagship Amarta software package to a South African life insurer. Oracle will provide the basic operating software.

Steve Bellamy, finance director, said: "After the alliance, we effectively have a presence in 73 countries, although we are relying on somebody else selling the software."

Sherwood returned record results for 1996 as heavy cost-cutting measures implemented two years ago began to pay off. With a 55 per cent growth in sales to overseas customers, overall turnover grew 12 per cent to £24.6 million.

A full year of savings gained from subcontracting its £3 million facilities management operations to a subsidiary of ICL helped margins to rise from 5.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent of sales. This took profits to £2.06 million (£1.2 million) before tax and exceptional items.

Earnings fell 4 per cent to 19.2p on an underlying basis after being diluted by a paper offer for Beta Computers last year. A final dividend of 3p lifts the total to 4.5p (3.75p).

Mr Bellamy said that the company now had firepower of £15 million and was on the acquisition trail.

Hays

delivering results.



Results for the six months ended December 31 1996

The Group has enjoyed another six months of solid progress, with all core activities performing well.

Compared with the half year to the end of December 1995, we recorded an 18% growth in pre-tax profit and an 18% rise in earnings per share, both before exceptional items of £7.5 million. The interim dividend is increased by 15% to 3.0p per share.

DISTRIBUTION

Higher profits in logistics offset by reduced results in Chemicals.

Logistics improved both profits and margins despite currency factors and has continued to win new business. Chemical Distribution was affected by higher input costs in a buoyant market.

The acquisition of Daufenbach and the expansion of our Scottish & Newcastle contract to include the entire "off trade" distribution are both important developments.

Equally significant is the signing of a new 5 year logistics management contract with Kriegbaum, a major German retailer.

COMMERCIAL

Operating profit up 33%, with particularly strong overseas growth.

The core activity continues to perform strongly both in the UK and overseas. The growth is a result of increased business from existing customers and expansion into new areas. ICS, acquired in the half year, is performing very well and in Hays Information Management there is continued geographical growth in response to customer demand.

PERSONNEL

Operating profit up 33%, productivity continuing to rise.

All our major businesses contributed to an excellent result, with growth in both permanent and temporary placements. Investment in information technology will continue to strengthen our productivity and competitive advantage.

PROSPECTS

We expect second half growth in Distribution as well as continued progress in Commercial and Personnel. The balance sheet remains strong, and we are well-placed to continue to maximise shareholder value and take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(Unaudited) FOR THE 6 MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996

	1995	1996	% Change
Profit before tax*	£60.8m	£71.7m	+18%
Earnings per ordinary share*	10.3p	12.1p	+18%
Interim dividend per share	2.6p	3.0p	+15%

* Before exceptional items

For your copy of the interim statement for 1996, please write to David Beckley, Hays plc, Hays House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HJ.

This advertisement has been approved by Deloitte & Touche, who are authorised to carry on investment business by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Hays

THE BUSINESS SERVICES GROUP

New recipes help to lift Perkins Foods

PORK and chicken recipes introduced to make up for the loss of beef dish sales have helped Perkins Foods to raise pre-tax profits 7 per cent to £23.5 million during 1996 (George Sivell writes).

Profits in the frozen food division went up from £10 million to £10.5 million in spite of a 2 per cent fall in volume after the BSE scare during 1996. Howard Phillips, the chief executive, explained that improvements in efficiency helped along with the introduction of the new pork and chicken dishes.

Profits from chilled foods rose from £6.8 million to £8.2 million. Profits from fresh produce remained unchanged at £10.7 million.

Earnings rose from 8.2p to 8.5p, out of which a maintained total dividend of 4.5p will be paid. The shares rose 2p to 83p.

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BSE scare and falling dairy prices fail to dent profits

US growth boosts Avonmore

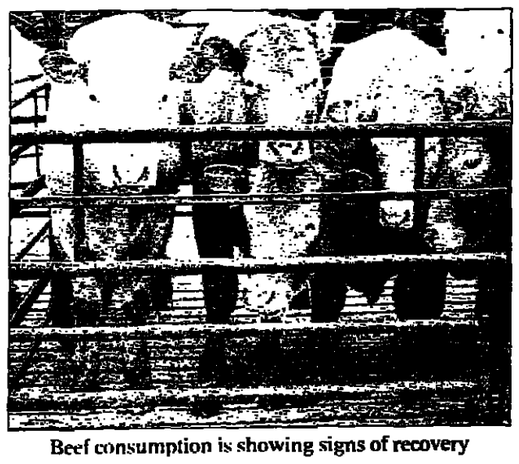
From Eileen McCabe in Dublin

RAPID expansion in the UK and America continues to pay off handsomely for Avonmore Foods, one of the Republic of Ireland's largest food groups, which yesterday reported better than expected annual results.

In spite of the twin squeeze of a worldwide decline in dairy prices and the BSE crisis, Avonmore's annual pre-tax profits rose almost 14 per cent to Ir£36 million. Earnings per share were up 11 per cent to Ir17.19p.

The aggressive, international acquisitions policy of the former co-operative, which went public in 1988, was highlighted in yesterday's results that, for the first time, saw turnover in its American operations pipping turnover in its Irish operations.

In the past eight years, Avonmore has made 31 acquisitions in the UK and the US. Those two markets now account for 75 per cent of the group's turnover.



Beef consumption is showing signs of recovery

Pat O'Neill, group managing director, said the $100 million raised in November in a preferred securities issue in New York meant that the company was well placed to make further acquisitions in both markets.

Turnover in the group's dairy sector increased by more than 9 per cent to Ir£761 million. A geographical breakdown of the sector shows that a Ir£1 million decline in turnover in the Irish region was more than offset by a Ir£46 million rise in the US region to Ir£172 million. The group's UK operations also performed well, with an Ir£18 million increase in turnover to Ir£272 million.

In the meat sector, operating profits slipped almost Ir£1 million to just under Ir£10 million last year, largely because of the BSE scare. The company said that consumption of beef has shown some sign of recovery in the past few months and it expected a better performance this year. The pigmeat business in Ireland and the pigmeat and lamb processing sector in the UK both recorded strong growth in 1996. The effects of the BSE crisis also spilled over into the group's agri-trading division where it caused a fall-off in animal feed sales.

Avonmore announced a final dividend of Ir2.06p, bringing the total dividend for the year to Ir4.5p, up almost 10 per cent on the previous year. It is payable on May 13.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gilt & Fixed Int	127.45	127.45	- 0.29	5.71
General Acc	140.20	140.20	- 0.20	3.57
UK Growth Acc	159.70	159.70	- 0.20	3.56
UK Growth Inc	145.10	145.10	- 0.20	3.79
Higher Inc Acc	149.30	149.30	- 0.10	5.74
Higher Inc Inc	127.40	127.40	- 0.10	5.74
Gilt & Fixed Int Acc	127.40	127.40	- 0.29	5.64
Gilt & Fixed Int Inc	97.51	97.51	- 0.28	5.64
Nth America	126.70	126.70	- 0.01	2.52
Europe	140.60	140.60	- 0.20	3.56
Balanced Acc	147.50	147.50	- 0.01	2.52
Balanced Inc	127.40	127.40	- 0.01	2.52
Japan Acc	97.94	93.07	- 0.01	2.52
Far East ex Jpn	111.63	106.05	- 2.79	0.83

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

Gilts & Fixed Int	125.70	123.03	- 0.79	6.70
High Inc Equity	155.20	163.50	- 0.70	4.53
World Wide Bond	241.50	254.50	- 0.10	4.62
Sterling Bond	124.60	131.30	- 0.50	6.37
Asian Portfolio	143.80	151.40	- 0.50	2.72
Pacific Portfolio	201.90	212.60	- 0.11	0.38
Extra Income	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59
Balanced	201.90	212.60	- 0.11	0.38
General	201.90	212.60	- 0.11	0.38
Global Opps	141.60	149.10	- 0.30	2.26
Japan	97.30	102.40	- 0.50	0.48
Managed Inc	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59
Marketfield	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59
US Emerging Cos	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59
Special Sits	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59
Global Gilt & Sec	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59
Latin America	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59
Capital Reserve	124.60	131.20	- 0.60	6.59

ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
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M&P UK Growth	141.10	148.70	0.01	2.21
Equity Income	141.10	148.70	0.20	4.76
Extra Income	141.10	148.70	- 0.20	4.76
Smaller Co.	141.10	148.70	- 0.20	4.76
International	141.10	148.70		1.15

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UK Small Cos	150.05	157.95		

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
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Amer for A Recov	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.15
Emerging Cos	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.04
European	41.90	44.10		
Extra Income #	41.90	44.10	- 0.05	4.03
Far East Emerging	41.90	44.10	- 0.53	3.05
Fixed Mkts Inc #	41.90	44.10	- 0.55	5.17
Fund Inc Trst #	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	3.29
Japan	41.90	44.10		
Latin American	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.15
Recov	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.15
Smaller Cos	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.15
Technology	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.15
UK Growth	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.15
UK Income #	41.90	44.10	- 0.26	0.15

ALLCHURCHES PAY UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01452 305 958

Fixed Interest	94.40	99.40	- 0.23	3.74
Income Protection	89.10	93.80	- 0.37	3.84

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Min dlg: 01793 510 366 Deal dlg: 01793 514 514

Asian Growth	111.00	117.00	- 0.70	0.51
Capital & Income	127.00	133.80	- 0.10	6.70
Cautious	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	5.63
Eastern	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Emerging Markets	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Equity Income	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	5.63
European	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Extra Income	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	5.63
Fixed Interest	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	5.63
Global Bond	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	5.63
Global Equity	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Growth	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
High Income	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	5.63
Japan	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Managed	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Pacific Basin	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Property	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Sterling Bond	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	5.63
Technology	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
UK Equity	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
UK Smaller Cos	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
US Equity	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51
Worldwide	111.00	116.90	- 0.10	0.51

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

American Growth	147.30	156.10	+ 0.10	
Asia Growth Cos	136.70	152.70	+ 0.10	
Commodities	67.07	66.70	- 0.14	4.40
Eastern	307.00	329.10	+ 1.70	0.30
Equity Income #	107.80	115.00	+ 0.10	4.10
European Growth	350.70	423.80	+ 0.40	0.85
Frontier	403.00	429.30	+ 0.90	0.42
German Growth	91.30	98.85	+ 1.16	0.50
Global Bond	1.51	75.73	+ 0.07	6.20
Global Growth	159.60	160.00	- 0.20	0.49
Japan Growth	163.70	173.50	- 0.50	
Japan Smaller	118.70	125.70	- 0.90	
Korea Trust	48.7	52.68	+ 0.74	
Portfolio	174.80	181.50		2.00
-do- Accum	793.20	319.60	+ 0.10	2.00
UK Growth	117.80	126.30	- 0.10	2.00
UK Smaller Cos	109.90	118.90	- 0.10	1.90
Select Managers	90.36	100.10		1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3000

Intl Growth Fund Inc	93.50	99.41		
Special Opps Fd	68.09	72.44		

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
0117 929 8020

Balanced Growth	159.10	168.40	- 0.40	1.29
-do- Accum	195.20	206.60	- 0.47	1.29
Smaller Cos	126.60	186.80	- 0.15	0.48
Higher Yield #	67.12	71.27	- 0.55	3.29
American Gth Inc	117.40	117.90	1.01	
European Growth	105.30	106.60	- 2.30	0.03
-do- Accum	190.11	190.59	- 2.45	0.03
Managed Yield Inc	97.11	60.95	- 0.08	1.20
-do- Accum	69.70	73.80	- 0.09	1.20
Pan Spec Gwth	109.20	193.60	- 0.44	
Pacific Gwth	106.20	175.97	+ 1.51	
UK Growth #	105.74	111.89	- 1.68	7.86
-do- Accum #	116.42	121.43	- 1.85	7.86
Japan	46.20	48.91	- 0.35	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	103.04	106.83	- 0.64	8.09

BUKRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7216

Short Fixed Gilt	64.49	65.011	- 0.67	6.62

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5050

Emerging	193.10	209.50	- 0.40	1.74
UK Growth	236.60	258.50	- 0.90	2.13
UK Income	160.80	169.20	- 0.80	3.09

CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD
01707 822 100

Can Gen Dist	241.30	262.10	- 0.20	1.91
-do- Income Dist	136.70	142.30	- 0.20	3.47
-do- Accum	245.50	472.20	- 0.80	3.42
Gilt & Fixed Int	41.30	43.491	- 0.10	6.23
Income Units	277.80	297.00	- 0.10	1.92
Bond	178.90	188.20	- 0.90	6.50
Int'l Growth	240.80	256.00	+ 1.00	0.17
North American	77.10	194.80	- 0.40	0.09
Far East	204.00	218.60	+ 1.00	0.65
UK Smaller Cos	253.60	271.30	+ 2.90	1.05
European	161.30	182.10	+ 0.60	0.42
Japanese Growth	26.82	27.04	- 0.10	
High Income	232.85	254.90	- 0.50	7.09

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455

American & Gen	236.50	248.50	0.40	
European Inc	102.00	109.20	+ 0.20	0.33
Smaller Cos (UK)	119.90	127.80	- 1.00	1.25
General	597.80	617.80	+ 3.40	1.97
Income & Growth #	604.60	636.90		3.54
-do- Accum #	658.30	800.40		3.54
Asian & Gen	93.25	95.44	- 0.06	
-do- Accum	115.30	122.80	- 1.20	
Japan Spec Sits	94.70	97.47	- 0.66	
Worldwide	361.00	379.50	- 0.70	0.48

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

American Growth	147.30	156.10	+ 0.10	
Asia Growth Cos	136.70	152.70	+ 0.10	
Commodities	67.07	66.70	- 0.14	4.40
Eastern	307.00	329.10	+ 1.70	0.30
Equity Income #	107.80	115.00	+ 0.10	4.10
European Growth	350.70	423.80	+ 0.40	0.85
Frontier	403.00	429.30	+ 0.90	0.42
German Growth	91.30	98.85	+ 1.16	0.50
Global Bond	1.51	75.73	+ 0.07	6.20
Global Growth	159.60	160.00	- 0.20	0.49
Japan Growth	163.70	173.50	- 0.50	
Japan Smaller	118.70	125.70	- 0.90	
Korea Trust	48.7	52.68	+ 0.74	
Portfolio	174.80	181.50		2.00
-do- Accum	793.20	319.60	+ 0.10	2.00
UK Growth	117.80	126.30	- 0.10	2.00
UK Smaller Cos	109.90	118.90	- 0.10	1.90
Select Managers	90.36	100.10		1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3000

Intl Growth Fund Inc	93.50	99.41		
Special Opps Fd	68.09	72.44		

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
0117 929 8020

Balanced Growth	159.10	168.40	- 0.40	1.29
-do- Accum	195.20	206.60	- 0.47	1.29
Smaller Cos	176

Equities mark time

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996/97 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	407½	Allied Domecq	432½	-4½	6.8	13.1
535	477	Bulmer (H P)	520	..	2.7	18.5
131	69	Burn Stewart	80	..	6.2	73.9
1005	645	Glenmorangie A	1000	..	1.5	27.2
498	411	Grand Met	492½	..	4.4	14.8
493	424	Guinness	457	-1½	4.2	14.2
380	315	Highland Dist	330	-1	3.8	18.9
803	250½	Matthew Clark	328½	-1½	8.4	15.3
141	91½	Mcryden W	107½	..	5.3	14.5
2612½	1375	SA Brewwries	1853½	-9½	1.9	..

BANKS

4708½	2743½	ABN-AMRO	4393½	-15½	2.7	17.9
811	528	Abbey Nat	748½	-6	4.5	13.0
455½	315	Alfred Irish	435	-3½	4.2	..
459½	285	Anz New Z	377½	-4½	5.0	..
7600½	3645½	Bank America	7035	-78½	..	..
375½	227½	Bank Scotland	341	..	2.7	12.6
1226	693	Barclays	1094	-15	3.6	11.1
631½	413	Bk of Ireland	622½	-3½	3.3	14.1
28844½	40331½	Citicorp	27094½	-125	..	..
1578½	1263½	Commercials	1578½	-6½	2.8	..
1350	890½	Dbl Ish Kw Y	1695½	-3½	0.7	..
34172½	27095½	Deutsche Bk	32172½	-195½	2.0	..
881½	569½	Espirito Santo	750½	-9½	3.9	..
1507	1000½	Fuji Bank Y	1109½	-4½	0.0	12.1
1569½	931	HSBC	1552	-30	3.4	13.2
1544	1330	HSBC HK	1506½	-29	3.5	12.8
800	395	Irish Permt	800	..	2.7	..
534	294½	Lloyds TSB	502	-6½	8.3	15.7
619½	566	Nat Aust Bk	778½	-7½	5.4	10.4
844½	695½	Nat Westr	731½	-7½	4.0	12.9
692½	464	Syd Mk Bank	584½	-7	4.8	15.3
867½	647	Standd Chart	808	+24½	2.1	16.3
6174½	2137½	Wells Fargo	2156½	..	2.1	16.6
374½	264	Westpac	344½	-3	3.9	11.8

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

878½	702	Bass	845	-10	3.7	16.7
70	40	Bk for the Bir	64	..	3.4	17.5
265	161	Barkered Inv	186½	-½	3.7	17.0
149½	92	City Centr Rest	149	-2½	1.8	28.1
738	483	Compass Grp	727½	-2½	2.3	25.1
290½	190	Eldridge P 'A'	287½	..	2.5	17.6
540	418	Fuller Sm A'	489	..	2.4	16.0
317½	209½	Greenalls Grp	306	-1½	3.5	17.5
724½	567½	Gresley King	724½	..	2.8	17.8
285	164½	Grosvenor Invst	215½	-1	3.5	20.8
304	204	Groupe Chez Ger	285	+2½	1.3	27.9
357	276½	Hardy Haroen	280½	..	4.5	13.3
3475	2700	Hsft J	2750	..	2.6	14.8
1195½	70	Inst Business	75½	..	3.2	..
356	298	Mansfield	356	..	2.3	16.4
353½	252	Mission Thmp	298	-3½	3.2	11.0
658	534	Morland	566	+5	2.8	15.7
1681½	1118	My Kinda Town	1668	..	2.5	16.4
72½	39½	Paramount	40	..	..	..
618½	217	PizzaExpress	618½	-4½	0.6	46.4
438	245	Rangers (Ht)	405	..	1.5	..
378½	138½	Regent Invst	353½	+6	0.9	33.8
709	501	Scot & Nwe	675½	-2½	3.7	20.5
3193	2400	Mast Group	2967½	..	2.7	13.5
1255	646	Wolverspon JD	1142½	..	1.0	29.1
818	672	Whitbread	769	+14½	3.5	16.2
785	578	Wolstenhm D	765	+2½	3.9	15.5
415	297	Yates Bros	475	+3½	1.0	30.8
650	425	Young 'A'	520	..	3.1	24.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

347	15	AAF Inds	25½	..	..	..
262	135	Abbey	195	..	3.6	20.0
297½	212½	Allen	285½	..	3.0	17.5
123	65	Amec	120½	+½	5.5	10.2
468½	117	Arcay	467½	+5	2.1	29.5
532½	233	Andrews, Sykes	500	..	1.3	18.8
282½	152	Ashtead	269½	-3	1.5	23.5
48½	26	Avondale	44	..	2.8	..
64	24	Bailey (Ben) Con	37	..	3.5	14.9
395	181½	Bamfl	387½	+2	3.5	14.1
64½	34	Barcam	58½	..	2.6	33.8
291½	219	Barratt Devs	278½	..	3.7	13.6
213	163½	Bazeor	200½	..	3.7	17.1
1844	1380	Bellway	1525½	-10	2.9	17.8
211½	147½	Bellwrnch	210½	..	..	..
748½	463	Berkeley Gp	735½	..	1.4	18.4
175	133	Bett Bros	161	..	4.3	4.9
260	175	Boot (Henry)	260	..	3.7	10.6
133	77½	Brandon Hire	90½	..	3.3	12.5
365½	18	Brmah Gn Grp	30	..	..	..
70	31	Br Bldg & Eng	59½	..	4.4	20.0
159	104	Bryant	143½	-½	3.4	18.6
125½	88	CALA	124½	..	3.4	18.6
30	5	Campbll & Arm	6½	..	1.0	..
63½	37	Clarke T	57½	..	8.7	..
8193	39	Closed*	46	..	..	..
99½	51	Countryside	93	..	3.1	27.0
94	54½	Cred Nicholson	91½	+½	3.5	14.1
98	66½	Cussins	82½	-3½	4.9	13.4
356	298	Mansfield	356	..	2.3	16.4
353½	252	Mission Thmp	298	-3½	3.2	11.0
658	534	Morland	566	+5	2.8	15.7
1681½	1118	My Kinda Town	1668	..	2.5	16.4
72½	39½	Paramount	40	..	..	..
618½	217	PizzaExpress	618½	-4½	0.6	46.4
438	245	Rangers (Ht)	405	..	1.5	..
378½	138½	Regent Invst	353½	+6	0.9	33.8
709	501	Scot & Nwe	675½	-2½	3.7	20.5
3193	2400	Mast Group	2967½	..	2.7	13.5
1255	646	Wolverspon JD	1142½	..	1.0	29.1
818	672	Whitbread	769	+14½	3.5	16.2
785	578	Wolstenhm D	765	+2½	3.9	15.5
415	297	Yates Bros	475	+3½	1.0	30.8
650	425	Young 'A'	520	..	3.1	24.7

BUILDING MATERIALS

393	284	BPB	336½	-5	3.7	16.2
124	91	Baggeridge Brk	109½	..	3.6	26.9
42	25½	Barton	36½	..	6.5	15.9
66	37½	Blockleys	37½	-1½	..	..
416	322	Blue Circle	402½	-5	4.0	29.2
97	77	Brdgan PLC	87½	..	8.9	14.5
140½	108	Br Dredging	140	..	9.0	16.1
673	413	CRH	634	..	1.6	17.0
46	32½	Caldwood Bby	47½	..	5.5	13.4
192½	148	Cape	177	..	7.4	..
295½	227½	Cmadon	277	..	4.3	30.4
134½	106	Cmadon st	132½	..	7.0	..
65½	19	Cmellia Gp	60½	..	3.1	..
272½	198	Dyson (Jshn)	267½	..	2.4	15.2
145	70	Dyson 'A'Y'	130½	..	4.8	7.7
77½	24	Ecosse	24	..	..	..
293	200	Epwin	277½	..	4.0	20.9
183½	121½	Fibre	125	..	..	13.8
96½	80½	Gibbs & Dandy	96½	..	4.7	9.8
209	121	Graham Grp	157½	..	5.2	22.2
365	341½	Halstead (J)	342½	..	3.3	14.8
275	..	Hanson	275	-1½	3.5	..
321	240½	Hepworth	267½	-2	7.2	14.8
90	36	Howeborn!	77½	..	4.2	15.5
282	215	Heywd Wlm	264	..	6.8	12.3
83	57½	Higgs	71	..	3.5	15.7
515	385	Johnston	515	..	3.8	20.0
88	66	Lilleshall	81½	+1	7	..
155	117	Marley	132½	+½	4.8	16.1
154	122½	Marshalls	130	-2½	5.0	14.0
347	240½	Meyer Int	304	+½	3.6	36.0
189	99	Newmnan Tnks	178	..	5.5	..
106	81½	Norcros	91	-1½	1.4	..
93	74½	Pnnnsula Timber	75½	-½	3.9	44.2
223	179	Pilkington	142½	-2	4.4	22.7
284½	174½	Polypipe	264	..	1.4	22.7
1136½	823½	RMC Gp	958	+8½	3.3	15.5
476½	332	Redland	354½	+½	5.9	17.4
123	77	Rocket	88	..	5.5	16.0
153	87½	Rutland	111½	..	6.8	16.0
193	97½	Rugby Group	166½	..	4.1	21.2
131	92½	Russell (A)	102½	..	3.3	19.1
311	196	SIG	311	+11½	2.7	17.3
44	24	SSP	34	..	..	29.0
232½	156	Sharpe & Fisher	231½	..	2.9	20.9
27	10½	Spring Ram	17½	+½	..	..
230	175	Staveley Inds	182½	..	5.3	12.3
136	95	Tarmac	130	-½	6.7	9.5
87	57½	Tilbn	136½	+2½	4.6	12.6
532	350	Tomkins	529	..	2.2	22.8
45½	25½	Tutor	45	..	3.6	17.7
511½	415	Wellaway	472½	..	3.7	16.3

CHEMICALS

207½	149	Allnghll & Wil	157	-½	5.5	12.8
149½	108½	Allied Colloids	129½	..	2.8	23.1
210	117	Amber Ind	180	..	2.0	18.7
109½	66	Amberley Gp	96	..	..	8.9
2	1½	Anglo Utd	2	+½	..	..
2440½	1443½	BASF Dtd	2278½	+9½	2.9	..
1000½	819	BOC	938	+9	3.6	17.2
334½	248	BTP	273½	+6	5.2	14.4
3503½	1716½	Bayer Dtd50	2501½	+21½	2.1	..
1195½	70	Brent Chemcl	90½	+1½	3.3	27.9
249½	185½	Br Vita	213	+1	4.7	24.7
192½	162	Brunner Mond	171½	-1	6.5	9.5
268½	192	Canning (W)	207½	..	3.7	17.4
222½	182½	Cty Technology	193	-2½	5.5	18.8
468½	363	Coalfields	412	-1½	3.6	14.8
373	294	Croda	295½	..	3.0	14.8
317½	209½	Dualflex	316½	..	3.8	14.8
233½	136	Ellis & Everard	216	..	4.2	13.1
94	60½	Exro Colour	69½	..	9.5	7.8
197	87½	Fabdon	89½	..	3.8	..
93	52	Hickson	2616½	-18½	1.8	..
2840½	1750	Hoechst	1826	..	5.1	17.5
1166	1025	Holliday Chem	1135	..	5.4	21.8
1116	716½	IMI	774	-2	4.6	9.3
368	173½	Inspec	124½	..	..	..
147	108½	Kalon	114½	-1½	4.5	35.4
782	625	Laporte	765	..	7.8	11.5
325	165	Marston	87½	..	2.7	10.6
100	78	Marstrn	92	..	2.7	20.5
37	26	Metrotnol	29½	-5	3.4	..
432	183	Norsk H	322½	..	4.6	9.3
274	216½	Scapa	249	-½	4.9	20.9
34	24½	Sutcliffe Speak	32½	+4	0.6	20.6
1333½	922½	Tate & Chem	1228	+10	5.0	11.3
1133	597½	Wmshlmor R	1105	-1½	5.9	10.5
296	185	Yorks Grp	258½	..	2.9	16.8
399	305	Yule Catto	358½	..	..	..

DISTRIBUTORS

207½	129½	Aaron Cp Spls	185½	-2	..	22.8
465	287½	Adam & Harvey	362½	..	7.1	6.0
24½	10½	Alexandrs(I	18½	-½	1.0	..
113	67½	Appleyard	88½	..	2.5	15.6
4	3	Ass Br Eng	3½	..	4.8	..
630	566	BSS Group	616	..	..	..
25	14½	Bearing Power	19½	..	2.5	11.1
45	29	Bisgod A	41½	..	3.0	17.5
595	425	Bolsover	28	..	1.1	..
26½	16	Bridgend Gp	100½	..	4.7	11.5
249	178	Bill Fittings	205	..	4.7	12.6
318	245	Calleos	280½	..	2.9	16.6
1944½	1525	Car Group	1721	-1	3.2	8.6
160	105	Cavendish	125	..	3.6	12.0
107½	72½	Charles Sidney	85	..	4.8	7.0
79	55½	Clyde (DC)	68	..	5.9	7.5
175	145½	Dng Motors	168½	..	2.6	14.7
163	125½	Dawsons Hl	130½	-2	4.8	13.9
434	328	Diploma	375	..	..	..

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

479	288	Autograph	402½	-1½	1.6	15.6
387	263	Arcot Indgs	374½	+1	2.1	..
1056	785	Bmbon Hill	1000	..	2.5	11.5
340	229	BTR	342½	+4	4.9	18.1
596	411	BTR	545½	+9½	5.7	16.0
447½	198	Bilbay (J)	197	..	7.3	7.8
65	50½	Bowthy Inv	58½	-½	3.4	12.7
1057	715	Charte	741½	..	4.7	..
338	265	Cookson	292½	-3	4.5	12.4
2295½	141	Cossell)	211	-5½	5.8	10.2
2175	1542½	DCC	1911½	..	2.0	12.4
191	164	McLeod Russel	172	..	4.9	14.0
478	368	Powell Dullyn	428	+14	7.4	16.5
146½	97	Rayner	142	..	7.3	12.3
2½	1½	Smedley	1½	..	2.6	12.3
1324½	1312½	Smiths Indus	1606½	..	3.3	22.7
502	359½	Lead	390	-1	4.2	10.9
282	172	Lancashrhldg	269	-1	8.0	..
1587	145	Spirax	1695½	+3	4.4	12.4
116	89	Wagon Ind	116½	-1	4.3	12.4
433	252½	Trinity Hldgs	313½	..	3.3	15.9

ELECTRICITY

153½	89	Br Energy PIP	141½	-½	7.2	..
737	479	East Midlands	670	..	5.8	9.9
5770½	3993	Eleccty Assoc	5295½	+3	5.0	10.2
873	585	London Elect	780½	..	5.1	10.2
2175½	1647½	Midland Grid	2067½	-1	6.7	8.3
515	373½	Midland Pwer	493	-4	6.0	9.4
724	484	Northern Elec	651	..	6.4	8.9
4655	3088	Nthn Ireland	3980	..	6.4	6.0
1464	1162	PowerGen	1360	-7½	4.5	7.2
3722	2711½	Hydro-Electr	3620	+6½	5.7	8.0
2541	2053½	Scottish Power	2357	+6	5.6	10.1
4557	3604½	Southern Elect	4369½	+30	6.3	10.1
910	656	Yorkshire Elect	864	..	6.0	11.8

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

562	471½	Acal	491½	..	2.2	16.1
311	182½	Acorn Comp	185½	..	..	..
414½	163½	Admiral	367½	-2½	0.6	..
218½	134	Amstrad	196½	+7½	1.7	..
457	312	Arch & Lacy	400½	..	4.2	15.0
838	602½	Atlas Elects	632½	..	4.3	13.6
148	92½	Aycliffe Metal	105½	..	5.9	8.1
370½	284	BBA	344	..	2.3	20.4
163½	117½	BMI	147½	..	3.4	9.6
145	44½	Babcock	67½	..	3.5	7.4
11¾	6	Bailey (C H)	10½	..	..	..
144	98	Baynes (Charles)	139½	+2½	2.6	18.9
44½	34	Bowthorpe	39½	-½	2.5	12.8
80	58	Brnsn Emerpt	59½	-½	4.1	23.2
224	162½	Beckford Intl	197½	..	4.1	..
105	77	Bilton	82	..	8.1	..
852½	579	Bookpost	785	-7½	1.1	32.6
98	35½	Booth Inds	42½	..	..	..
49	17	Bremner	26	..	4.1	10.1
130	88	Brdon	118	..	4.7	..
1266½	787	Br Aerospace	1234½	+17	1.5	19.1
201	139½	Br Sound	1510½	+1	3.3	10.7
155	100½	Brooks Toolf	133	..	2.8	8.5
58	15½	Bunzl	15½	-½	4.0	12.0
113	67½	Bulkbuglt	111½	+½	6.1	34.8
178½	92	Burndy	175	-½	5.1	14.8
315	187½	Cable Engl	279½	+1	2.0	17.7
1139½	782	Cambridge	1139½	..	2.1	18.9
455	295	Champlin Hld	210	..	6.3	10.4
195	135	Chrmnhg	214	..	2.9	16.6
365	179½	Clyde Blowers	345	..	3.9	9.6
673½	557	Cobham	580½	-2	2.2	21.6
369	269	Coben (A)	350	..	5.8	11.1
200	148½	Concentric	158	..	5.6	11.1
425	215	Cook (Wm)	397½	..	5.0	11.7
262½	208	Dowty Group	254	-2½	4.5	13.1
396	320	DSS	15	..	4.2	..
31	8½	Deco	74	..	5.1	8.9
121	63½	Elliott (B)	116½	..	3.3	20.9
117½	86	Espanet	115½	..	5.7	15.3
217	153	FKI	172½	..	2.9	22.8
180	130	Filtrona	174	..	..	..
6¾	1½	Fortech	5½	-2½	..	17.5
69½	38	Fox Hldgs	53½	..	2.4	11.7
94	55½	Firth Rnsort	85	..	5.3	10.2
152	109½	GEI Int	151½	..	5.7	6.7
222	150	Garton Eng	209	+3½	5.3	12.9
393	290	Gnvanct	329½	-1	6.0	8.4
170	107½	Gloystone	110	..	2.8	14.9
116½	71½	Hadex Maclin	110	..	2.3	16.8
365	181	Hardings	335	..	3.7	14.5
318½	173½	Hall Eng	271½	-6½	3.7	14.5
210	165	Halma	196	..	1.8	21.2
77½	43	Hampson Ind	71½	..	4.0	26.4
32	23	Hay (Maxwell)	25½	..	..	..
51	26	Headway	47	..	4.3	9.0
177	59½	Hill & Smith	89½	..	8.8	15.4
41	26	Hopkinsons	32	-1	6.1	..
555	331½	How Gp	532	..	2.8	27.5
84	65½	Howden	82½	..	4.6	10.7
210	160	Hunting	185	..	4.8	..
232	110	IMI	352½	+2½	4.6	18.5
412½	311	IMI	392½	-2½	3.4	15.5
654	510	Johnson Matth	535½	..	3.5	5.6
60	29	James Skipmant	36	..	3.6	15.1
638	340	Kelsey Ind	467½	-2½	6.4	15.1
269	178	Lucas	229½	..	4.3	13.1
43½	23½	Lucker (T)	41½	..	2.3	17.2
47½	34	Mk Hdgs	43½	..	3.9	64.5
36	16½	MS Int	19	+1	3.9	23.9
481½	222	Meag Brgsn	457½	+½	1.9	17.1
604	368	McKechnie	572½	+½	3.9	15.1
114½	84	Meggitt	107½	..	4.6	17.9
185½	90½	Metalrax	108	-½	4.3	17.0
23	10½	MetalTech	12½	..	..	..
137½	88	Micanc	136½	..	3.7	13.2
1037	765	Molins	995	..	2.9	13.0
487½	384	Morgan Crib	470½	+1½	3.8	17.6
329½	254	Morrss Ashley	309½	..	3.2	15.0
56	31	Mosscrost	31	-½	7.3	6.0
34½	24	Mul Ind	24	-1	..	34.1
89½	62	Nmsmond	82½	-1	1.9	18.8
374	274	Powerscreen	374	..	..	..
5	3	Prospect Inds	5	..	..	..
299	200	Quadromatic	259	..	4.7	13.5
18	4	Quadtrnt Gp	10	..	3.1	17.1
85	62	Radiant Mstl	65	..	3.1	11.1
89	58	Ransomes	60½	..	3.3	10.2
83	52½	Record	61½	..	3.3	14.5
324	237	Renold	239½	..	4.2	18.4
36	15	Richards Group	18	..	6.4	8.2
88	70½	Richardson West	87½	..	2.7	23.2
270	187	Rolls-Royce	234½	+1½	2.7	27.4
2777½	1771	Rotork	2568½	..	3.0	27.4
269	200	Rubicon	130	+4	6.8	9.3
1594½	1187½	SGB 'B'	1475	-12½	2.7	16.4
125	92½	Senior Eng	119	..	3.7	30.2
366½	756	Smiths Ind	366	..	1.9	20.1
1093½	750	Stelwrt	959½	..	1.8	20.1

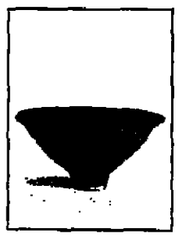
ENGINEERING

497½	277	Allmt	496	+1	1.8	17.5
99½	59	APV	77½	-1	4.7	..
99	29½	ASW	35	..	3.5	..
457	312	Atomastc	312½	..	3.2	13.6
178	131	Avis	131	..	2.9	15.3
148	92	Aydsley Metal	105½	..	4.2	15.0
370½	284	Bbh	344	..	4.3	13.6
163½	117½	Bhh	147½	..	3.9	9.1
224	145	Babcock	197	..	3.5	7.4
11¾	6	Bailey (C H)	10½	..	..	..
144	98	Baynes (Charles)	139½	+2½	2.6	18.9
44½	34	Bowthorpe	39½	-½	2.5	12.8
80	58	Brnsn Emerpt	59½	-½	4.1	23.2
224	162½	Beckford Intl	197½	..	4.1	..
105	77	Bilton	82	..	8.1	..
852½	579	Bookpost	785	-7½	1.1	32.6
98	35½	Booth Inds	42½	..	..	..
49	17	Bremner	26	..	4.1	10.1
130	88	Bridon	118	..	4.7	..
1266½	787	Br Aerospace	1234½	+17	1.5	19.1
201	139½	Br Sound	1510½	+1	3.3	10.7
155	100½	Brooks Toolf	133	..	2.8	8.5
58	15½	Bunzl	15½	-½	4.0	12.0
113	67½	Bulkbuglt	111½	+½	6.1	34.8
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195	135	Chrmnhg	214	..	2.9	16.6
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262½	208	Dowty Group	254	-2½	4.5	13.1
396	320	DSS	15	..	4.2	..
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117½	86	Espanet	115½	..	5.7	15.3
217	153	FKI	172½	..	2.9	22.8
180	130	Filtrona	174	..	..	..
6¾	1½	Fortech	5½	-2½	..	17.5
69½	38	Fox Hldgs	53½	..	2.4	11.7
94	55½	Firth Rnsort	85	..	5.3	10.2
152	109½	GEI Int	151½	..	5.7	6.7
222	150	Garton Eng	209	+3½	5.3	12.9
393	290	Gnvanct	329½	-1	6.0	8.4
170	107½	Gloystone	110	..	2.8	14.9
116½	71½	Hadex Maclin	110	..	2.3	16.8
365	181	Hardings	335	..	3.7	14.5
318½	173½	Hall Eng	271½	-6½	3.7	14.5
210	165	Halma	196	..	1.8	21.2
77½	43	Hampson Ind	71½	..	4.0	26.4
32	23	Hay (Maxwell)	25½	..	..	..
51	26	Headway	47	..	4.3	9.0
177	59½	Hill & Smith	89½	..	8.8	15.4
41	26	Hopkinsons	32	-1	6.1	..
555	331½	How Gp	532	..	2.8	27.5
84	65½	Howden	82½	..	4.6	10.7
210	160	Hunting	185	..	4.8	..
232	110	IMI	352½	+2½	4.6	18.5
412½	311	IMI	392½	-2½	3.4	15.5
654	510	Johnson Matth	535½	..	3.5	5.6
60	29	James Skipmant	36	..	3.6	15.1
638	340	Kelsey Ind	467½	-2½	6.4	15.1
269	178	Lucas	229½	..	4.3	13.1
43½	23½	Lucker (T)	41½	..	2.3



■ VISUAL ART 1

The unflinching view from August Sander's camera is revealed at the National Portrait Gallery



■ VISUAL ART 2

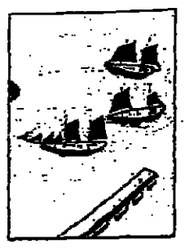
... and the Barbican is also displaying the pioneers of the Thirties, as Lucie Rie ...

THE TIMES ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

... and Hans Coper are shown to be two of the most innovative forces in pottery this century



■ VISUAL ART 4

Have we belittled Alfred Wallis? A new London show offers a timely reassessment

VISUAL ART: **Richard Cork** on the photographs of August Sander at the National Portrait Gallery. Plus ceramics and other shows

A finger on the pulse of his time

The earliest photograph in August Sander's retrospective at the National Portrait Gallery offers no hint of the powerful transformation to come. Seated with his young wife Anna in their Austrian home, Sander plucks at a lute and seems lost in melancholy introspection. His carefully pointed moustache and beard lend him the air of a dreamily aristocratic portrait by Van Dyck. And the deep shadows spreading across the room threaten to engulf both husband and wife, giving the entire image a sense of romantic mystery.

Taken in 1904, soon after Sander opened a successful photographic studio in Linz, this artfully composed and "painterly" picture belongs to the old century rather than the new. Only in 1910 did he start experimenting with an alternative approach. Returning to his native Germany, where he set up a studio in Cologne, Sander began photographing inhabitants of the rural area around his birthplace in the Westerwald. Many of his bucolic subjects look like the wizened sitters in Rembrandt's late portraits, and to that extent Sander still seems heavily indebted to the Old Masters. But he was already beginning to see these gnarled "people of the soil" as archetypes rather than individuals. Far from identifying them by name, he called them "the sage", "the intellectual" and "the fighter, or revolutionary". Their intense gaze and sober stance help to justify these resounding titles. Here, Sander felt, were figures whose lifelong connections with nature made them the inevitable starting-point for all his subsequent explorations.

War interrupted the immediate development of a fully encompassing vision. By the 1920s, though, Sander's alliance with the so-called "Cologne Progressives" encouraged him to pursue his ambition to its limits. The look of his photographs changed as well. Rembrandtesque shadows and selfconscious compositional frills were eradicated.

Photography possessed its own singular virtues, Sander believed. None of his sitters pretends to do anything other than submit to the scrutiny of the lens. The predominant mood is cool and objective. Determined to rely on photography's inherent ability to record with unwavering directness, Sander purged his work of anything that might interfere with such an austere aim.

He used the camera to capture the pulse of his time, without recourse to clever retouching and elaborate lighting. The figures in his photographs seem to emerge unmediated, rarely smiling and confident that they are being appraised on their own terms. In a Confession of Faith written for his landmark exhibition at the Cologne Kunstverein in 1927, Sander declared his "immodest" desire to "see things as they are and not as they should or could be". While counting painters and sculptors among his friends, he clearly considered that the camera was uniquely equipped to fulfil this clear-sighted goal. "I hate nothing more than sugary photographs with tricks, poses and effects," his manifesto concluded. "So allow me to be honest and tell the truth about our age and its people."

> "I hate nothing more than sugary pictures with tricks"

Such an unadorned approach might have produced a dull body of work. But the apparent straightforwardness of Sander's uncompromising vision turns out to command a surprising range and complexity. He classified his "People of the Twentieth Century" in distinct social groups, and never revealed the identities of the sitters who posed for him. But each person, far from merely illustrating a category, emerges with vividness from his supposedly level-headed scrutiny.

For example, take the Student Corps Member, a young man arrayed in a highly embellished uniform. He should be an elite embodiment of aspiring military magnificence, and yet his face is scarred with a series of horizontal slashes. Presumably caused by rapier cuts, they undermine his composure and expose the raw aggression lurking beneath his embroidered tunic.

When Sander photographed a pair of boxers, on the other hand, the outcome was surprisingly genial. Standing rigidly to attention like soldiers on parade, the two bruisers ought to look menacing. But the shorter man grins as foolishly as a drunk; and the risible contrast between their shorts — one pulled up uncomfortably tight, the other hanging low and loose on puny thighs — pushes them towards absurdity.

Sander was also capable of photographing the same subject with joltingly different results. In 1914, a stout, balding father stood with his two shaven-headed sons as a personification of *Widower*, and the stoical sadness in all three of their haunted faces is immensely moving. By 1928, however, the same man reappears as *Pastrycook*. Even bulkier now, and shown white-coated in the kitchen, he glares at the camera with an almost frightening teutonic belligerence.

Fascinated by the multilayered richness of contemporary society, Sander studied his working-class sitters with even more eager interest than his wealthier subjects. The farm worker was his prototype, after all, and throughout the exhibition he displays a consistent fellow-feeling for the most marginalised people he encountered. Tramps, itinerants and street entertainers are photographed with an instinctive sense of respect. A one-legged miner on crutches becomes the subject of an imposing full-length portrait; and a study of two dwarfs, crisply dressed in wing-collars and bow-ties, ranks among his most affectionate images. It betrays no desire to exploit them, and the unshaven, weary Inmate of an Asylum is likewise presented with the utmost gravity.

Too even-handed to indulge in open satire, Sander is nevertheless capable of disclosing where his true sympathies lie. The equestrian rider from Vienna is photographed with customary simplicity. But his top hat, monocle and pompous expression combine with his bandy-legged stance to make him laughable.

Precisely because he roamed through every level of interwar society, Sander eventually found himself a target for Nazi censorship. Hitler's bully-boys had no wish to see a blinded soldier or a multiracial circus troupe dignified in his portfolios. *Face of the Age*, the first selection of his portraits to be published, was withdrawn and its stock destroyed in 1934. Worse was to follow. Erich, his theology student son, was denounced as a Communist and imprisoned for ten years. Sander photographed him, an anonymous Political Prisoner reading in a rudimentary cell. An astonishingly objective picture, it conveys no hint of the fact that the inmate's father was behind the camera. But Sander's pride is implied in the decision to concentrate on his son's disciplined studiousness.

Sander needed all the stoicism he could muster during the war years. In 1944 Erich died of a suspiciously unknown illness, just before his sentence expired. Soon afterwards the family apartment in Cologne was severely bombed, and the following year around 30,000 negatives were destroyed in a cellar fire.

Sander continued working with obstinate resolve, taking photographs of his city's rubble-heaped streets punctuated by oddly intact factory chimneys and the shells of medieval churches. At the National Portrait Gallery these elegiac images are juxtaposed with his prewar studies of Cologne. The contrast is distressing. In the 1930s, the old waterfront architecture was still miraculously intact. Gabled warehouses provided an ideal foil for the twin-towered cathedral surging into the sky behind them. A decade later most of the city lay flattened, and Sander's New Year greetings card for 1948-49 showed the photographer and his camera silhouetted against the devastation.

In the end, though, his street scenes and landscapes compare poorly with the portraits. Sander is at his finest when he brings his formidable powers of scrutiny to bear on people. His forte lay in the steady gaze. By producing pictures as redoubtable as the Labourer, balancing a stack of bricks on his shoulders with practised ease, Sander defined the backbone of his nation. And the possibilities he opened up for an art rooted in tough yet humane social observation are still being explored by photographers today.

● *August Sander at the National Portrait Gallery (0171-306 0055) until June 8*



Backbone of the nation: the Labourer (1928) exemplifies August Sander's fascination with a multilayered society

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CHANGING TIMES

His and hers in pottery

Isabel Carlisle admires the quiet grandeur of the work of Lucy Rie and Hans Coper at the Barbican

Lucie Rie and Hans Coper were among the generation of Jews who, in fleeing the Holocaust and coming to live here in the 1930s, enriched British life in all its dimensions in the post-war period. Emigrés to this country from Austria and Germany respectively, they initially worked together and then separately as studio potters. In bringing with them the ideas of the international modern movement in art and its elegant simplicity of shapes, they opened up ideas about form and function which took pottery out of the craft bracket and on to a new plane.

In the exhibition space of the Barbican the Wiener Werkstatte architecture of Josef Hoffmann (who taught Rie in Vienna) and of Adolf Loos is splendidly evoked by architect John Pawson's single long display case of white painted wood and glass. Its unbroken horizontal lines on the outside and low, relatively compressed white inside spaces bring out the vertical elements in the pots and consequently the dignity and quiet grandeur that characterise Rie's and Coper's work.

The two artists first met in 1946 when Coper, desperate for a job, came to make ceramic buttons in Rie's workshop in Albion Mews, near Hyde Park. With the end of the war, they collaborated on plates, jugs and cups that were sold in Liberty's and Heals. Those early lemonade sets, coffee sets and breakfast sets, with jug handles reduced to a single straight arm, seem to have grounded Rie and Coper's work in function, so that when after 1958 the two went their separate ways (while still maintaining a close friendship), none of the experimentation went so far as to deny each pot a practical use. Even Coper, whose later experiments with thistle, spade and disc vases, as well as flanged geometric heads reminiscent of Picasso's Cubist works, pushed pottery towards sculpture, insisted that "art and sculpture should function".



Lucie Rie at her wheel in Albion Mews in the mid 1940s

Much of the visual satisfaction in Rie's and Coper's vases has to do with the fact that their proportions are closely allied to those of the human body. The same is true of the art and architecture of the ancient Greeks, and of the marble figurines and ceramic vessels of the Cycladic civilisation of around 2500 BC, from which Greek sculpture and pottery derived. Coper, like Brancusi and Henry Moore, was influenced by Cycladic art, and something of the mystery of its purpose resurfaces again in his work. Rie too, who as a child was impressed by the Roman pots in her uncle's collection, makes use of the ability of pottery to evoke lost cultures.

Coper's shouldered bottle with a flat circular lip of 1972, swelling to a round base, resembles a heavy schematic torso topped by a wide-brimmed hat. Rie's more delicate 1957 flask-shaped bottle with flared lip could equally be a person, probably female, with a long slim neck and a distended stomach, the roundness and fullness of which is emphasised by cross-hatched incised sgraffito lines (a decoration that she copied from Bronze Age pottery).

It would be too simple to say that Rie's work appears essentially feminine and Coper's masculine, but there is an element of truth there. Coper was more interested in form, taking shape and size to its limits while continuing to work in stoneware and contrasting white and manganese brown slips. His pots are heavier and more solid than Rie's thin-walled porcelain vases and bowls.

Rie's experiments were in surface appearance. Her colours and glazes were carefully married to the clay fabric of the pot to provoke chemical reactions that determined the surface texture. In some cases metallic pigments added to Rie's glazes to give them the sheen of precious metal. An open bowl made in 1967 from porcelain with a uranium yellow glaze has a banded colour interior that is golden at the bottom, then a bronze oxide green and then towards the lip a pale purplish pink. The lip itself has darkish bronze drips on either side while the indistinct edges of the bands of colour look like the hazy vapour rings around a planet. Too precious to use, Rie's pots in particular look both very much of their time, and very much older.

● Lucie Rie and Hans Coper: Potters in Parallel *is at the Barbican Art Gallery, Silk Street, London EC2 (0171-638 8891) until May 26*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

WHAT began as a golden jubilee exhibition for **William Gear**, celebrating 50 years' work 1947-1997, has with the artist's passing last week become a memorial instead. In 1947 Gear was already 32, but that is when his public career started. The war had been a big interruption. Before it Gear had studied in Edinburgh and in Paris with Leger, and when he was finally demobbed he returned to Paris and became, rarely for a British artist, an important figure in the otherwise exclusively continental CoBrA group, then largely domiciled in Paris. Hence virtually from the beginning he has been involved with the kind of Abstract Expressionism pursued by CoBrA.

Every now and then in his work one can distinguish landscape elements, and occasionally a possible figure. But in general emotion — often clearly violent emotion — is expressed through pure form and colour. The style has shifted through the years, but right up to date there is a strong and combative talent in evidence.

Redfern Gallery, 20 Cork Street, W1 (0171-734 1723). Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, until March 25.

☐ **DERRICK Greaves** is a relative stripling, just celebrating his seventieth birthday. Nearly all the work on the walls at the Hart Gallery dates from the last three years, though some early painting is there for comparison. One would probably guess that this is a talent most vitally formed in the Sixties: the preoccupation with hard edges, simple forms, and pervasive sexual reference marks Greaves's work as from the Pop/permissive generation. He can brandish a strong primary colour in one's face with the best of them, but about half the paintings here are in muted shades of grey and dull purple and slaty blue. Often they are, or appear to be, completely abstract. But even then shapes tend to surface which closely mirror the recesses of a woman's body. The results are paradoxically both severe and titillating.

Hart Gallery, 113 Upper Street, Islington, N1 (0171-704 1131). Tues-Fri 11am-7pm, Sat 11am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, until March 27.

☐ JUST when you thought it was safe to tidy **Alfred Wallis** away as a primitive, by chance oddly influential on the course of 20th-century British art because discovered at the right time by Ben Nicholson and Christopher Wood, here comes a new view to upset complacency. Mel Gooding is proposing that Wallis was a much more conscious and disciplined artist than we have supposed.

The current show at the Kapil Jariwala Gallery is put together on this principle, and it is undoubtedly a tonic to be required to look again at these small pictures of sailing boats ascending mountainous seas, of buildings on top of towering hills, and occasionally of simple suburban life on land. There is no denying the haunting quality of his tiny works, each a self-sufficient part of an extraordinarily self-sufficient private world.

Kapil Jariwala Gallery, 4 New Burlington Street, W1 (0171-437 2172). Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-2pm, until March 30.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR



■ THEATRE

A voice in the wilderness: Nigel Charnock continues his trawl through modern despair



■ CABARET

Following in the Master's steps: can the fine art of supper entertainment be revived?

THE TIMES ARTS



■ POP

On tour in Bristol, the *idiosyncratic* Babybird serve up a world-weary kind of set



■ CD CHOICE

Finest Mozart on disc: Building a Library explores available recordings of *Così fan tutte*



A passion for body language

THEATRE: Director Nigel Charnock happily tells **Nadine Meisner** about his latest foray into dark dimensions



Where words and movement meet on equal terms: Jan Knightly, Fern Smith and Paul Jones in a scene from *The Message*, Volcano Theatre's latest touring production

The question was simple enough: "What is your next project?" The answer was something else again: "A solo show will be the next thing. Oh dear, what am I saying? *Another* solo show. I *hate* saying it, it's enough solo shows already, Nigel, you've done enough, quite enough. But yes, yes, I *am* doing another."

This is the self-deprecating style of Nigel Charnock, delivered at breathless speed. He uses such diction as a central plank of the shows he creates and performs, a unique gymnastic mix of repetition, alliteration and word games so agile that you wonder what he does to get his mouth in training. It also makes him a natural for radio: the monologue he wrote and broadcast on Radio 3 qualified as a *Pick of the Year* and he hopes to work more in the medium.

However, you will not find Charnock in person, or the Charnock verbal experience, in his current project, *The Message*, which he directs for the Swansea-based Volcano Theatre. "I want them to be them, not me," he argues. "Especially when they are speaking words that I haven't written."

Originally the words were to have come from the dramatist Tony Harrison, but when at the eleventh hour it became evident that he could not supply them, it fell to Charnock to fill the gaping hole. He used extracts from Harrison's *Oresteia* to form the skeleton of the piece, repeatedly returning to its cycle of slaying and revenge like a refrain. He fleshed out the rest with other authors — Shakespeare (*Hamlet*, *Macbeth*), Fergal Keane and Primo Levi among them — assembling texts, as he did in his previous two collaborations with Volcano. Most of the texts are eyewitness or personal testimonies of momentous events, usually catastrophes of human massacre; so the authors become messengers and their message is bleak.

This is the same Nigel Charnock whom audiences have known as a dancer with Extemporary Dance Theatre and DV8. What they probably did not realise is that he trained as an actor for three years before entering London Contemporary Dance School. Is he moving out of the dance world? "I've never felt I was in it," he says. "And I still find dance pretty weird, strange stuff to watch." Yet in his own shows he welds a dance component to his spoken language. And in fact, he sees words and movement as part of the same thing: "I don't separate them: in the end, it's all the same, it's all theatre." So it is no accident that Volcano choose to collaborate with him: his ability to choreograph and coach bodies clearly slots into their physical theatre ethos.

He began fitting words and movement together from anxiety that the audience wouldn't otherwise understand what he was trying to communicate: "I didn't trust the words or the movement to say enough by themselves." Nowadays he is just concerned to expand his expressive means. "I put the two together in the hope it will produce something else that is even more eloquent, an extra dimension. But it's very difficult because you have to respect the text and the movement: you can't simply slam them together. They have to say something about each other. The movement can't merely illustrate the words, because then it would be mime and that would be superfluous. And it can't be abstract because that would be pointless."

The compelling desolation of *The Message* is something of a trait in Charnock's work. He looks cheerful, but his shows have a grimness which, were it not for their entertaining wit, would leave you pretty depressed. Why such a vision? "Most of my inspiration comes from anger," he says mildly. "We haven't progressed since Aeschylus; we haven't learnt anything. They had the Trojan War and we still have war; we are still killing and oppressing others. And I suppose my view is cynical, but it comes from what I observe and experience and that is all I can express. I'm amazed that some people seem quite content with the world and just want to get on with their own lives."

● The Message *is at the Lyric Theatre, King Street, London W6 (0181-741 2311) until March 15*

A talent to abuse

STEPHEN JONES abused his audience, his band and himself for most of Babybird's set at Bristol University on Saturday. But nobody seemed to mind, since it was the singer's acidic way with words, married to sweetly catchy melodies, that propelled this Sheffield quintet from bedsit obscurity to chart-topping fame late last summer.

Jones seems ambivalent about this sudden success. Indeed, the 34-year-old has already vowed, perhaps flippantly, to retire from music in the near future. He has proved his point, he claims, and says he is too old to carve out a career in pop.

It is a valid argument, and one which probably explains why much of Babybird's show proved relatively unengaging. Macabre subject-matter aside, Babybird's more raucous numbers tend to sound clumsy, while many of their softer compositions shamelessly reprise the undulating melody of their breakthrough hit, *You're Gorgeous*.

But it would be a shame to lose Jones from pop altogether, since his talents clearly lie at the mature and world-weary end of the market. While the rich rumble of his voice may be rooted in early 1980s epic rock bands such as Echo and the Bunnymen, the Psychedelic Furs and pre-irony U2, his dishevelled demeanour taps into a much older archetype: the heartbroken lounge singer, crooning for his supper from the depths of elegant despair.

Jones certainly looked the part in his shabby suit, sunglasses and flicked back hair. He even pulled up a stool for the bittersweet waltz *45 and Fat* and the soaring, gossip-tinged lament, *Dead Bird Sings*.

When all is said and done, behind all his sleazy wordplay, debauched posturing and scathing self-hatred lies an impressive knack for articulating heartfelt romanticism. If he can survive his own corrosive cynicism, Jones is a 21st-century soul singer in the making.

STEPHEN DALTON

POP

Babybird
Bristol

No more singing for supper?

Clive Davis mourns the sad plight of cabaret in this country – and applauds moves to put things right



DAVID CANTOR/AP

Bobby Short, a legend at the Carlyle Hotel in New York, where cabaret still flourishes

Noisy, dirty, crude: when the wind blows in the wrong direction, New York can be all of these things. But, in that city of extremes, anyone searching for sophisticated cabaret has ample choice: from the ritzy surroundings of the Carlyle to the sedate charms of the Algonquin's Oak Room; the skyscraper views from the Rainbow & Stars to the Greenwich Village buzz of Eighty Eight's. There, and at a multitude of less famous addresses, the spirits of the great songwriters — Cole Porter, the Gershwins, Johnny Mercer — still haunt the piano bars.

> "How can one singer compete with interactive video?"

Not so in London. Although Pizza on the Park has for years kept the cabaret flag flying at Hyde Park Corner, the transformation of the Talk of the Town into a branch of Peter Stringfellow's disco empire showed which way the wind was blowing.

At the other end of Shaftesbury Avenue, the future of the Café Royal's Green Room is currently under negotiation following several seasons of attractive but erratic programming that included memorable appearances by Bobby Short — the cabaret performer's cabaret performer — and Barbara Cook and, more recently, the television celebrity Cybill Shepherd. Shepherd was so amateurish she was almost entertaining, and she did at least fill the room.

The December season by Susan Maughan and Craig Douglas — pop troupers better suited to the country club circuit — was not a pretty sight either, but I am told that they did extremely good business with the Christmas party crowd.

But it is hard to imagine the American equivalent of Maughan and Douglas getting a foot in the door at the Algonquin. While New York's cabaret scene is certainly not what it was in the golden age before television and rock'n'roll, there does still seem to be enough of a discerning audience to keep performers in business. Could it be that the British really are more interested in flailing around at Annabel's or having a knees-up with pearlie kings and queens?

Lack of publicity is part of the problem, say the London impresarios who are about to launch a new cabaret organisation modelled on the Society of London Theatre. Since their venues operate on slender budgets and cannot afford expensive press advertising, it makes sense, they say, to pool resources in order to take out large display advertisements. The group's organisers, who will meet tomorrow to draw up plans, also hope to persuade listings magazines and editors to increase their coverage. They note that when *Time Out* launched its New York edition, cabaret was given its own, detailed section: in the London edition, artists disappear into the jazz and Latin column.

A sceptic might argue that reviving cabaret in London is about as realistic as campaigning for the return of the steam locomotive: a romantic idea, but not exactly in tune with the way we live now. How can one singer and a wobbly spotlight compete with interactive video and the rest of the multimedia circus?

But it is precisely because live entertainment is growing so impersonal that cabaret is worth preserving. There has to be more to life than stadium rock concerts and tuneless mega-musicals. Cabaret gives performers a chance to go back to basics, says James Clutton, of Centre Stage, the Covent Garden venue.

"We have performers who come in straight from working in West End shows," Clutton says. "It's beneficial for them to get away from doing the same thing night after night. To get on a little stage with a hundred people listening and applauding brings it all back to roots level. It reminds them of why they came into the business in the first place."

As with jazz clubs, cabarets are also the place where the classic songs are preserved and polished. The West End show *Crazy For You* had Gershwin standards dressed up to the nines, but nothing comes close to hearing *Embraceable You* performed by one singer and a pianist in a darkened room.

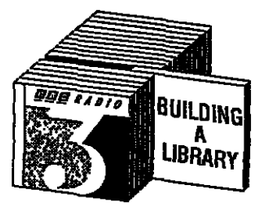
The Jermyn Street Theatre, on the other hand, cultivates fresh talent through its partnership with the Mercury Workshop, the organisation for musical theatre composers and lyricists. The venue launches *Late & Lyrical*, a new season of late-night performances, on Thursday.

Most of us no doubt have had memories of cabaret at its most contrived and schmaltzy. After all, the staple fare at the Talk of the Town was probably closer to Tom Jones than Cole Porter. But to hear the American singer Amanda McBroom singing Jacques Brel at Pizza on the Park last summer, or her compatriot Mary Cleere Haran performing Rodgers and Hart at the same venue, was to be part of an irreplaceable experience.

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

MOZART'S COSI FAN TUTTE
Reviewed by John Steane



TODAY, *Così* is one of the most frequently recorded of all operas. But in 1935 it was probably the most surprising entry among complete operas in the catalogue. Few people knew anything of it beyond the overture, and there was certainly no chance of seeing it at Covent Garden. The first Glyndebourne season (1934) put it to the test by alternating it with *La nozze di Figaro*. *Così* survived and prospered.

The Glyndebourne recording (1935) shows why. Under Fritz Busch it has most desirable qualities — except a full text. This was also wanting in the early postwar recordings, which nevertheless come back pretty regularly as reissues, and in two instances have gained the status of "classic". Both of these have Elisabeth Schwarzkopf as Fiordiligi, and of the two, the later version (1962) under Karl Böhm is widely preferred, but the Karajan (1955) has lightness of touch, a more youthful charm, and a capital cast.

If the "classic" Böhm surprises by *not* now being the obvious recommendation, that may be because we have become accustomed to faster tempi. Arnold Oestman and his company at Drottningholm introduced these on records in 1984, but, however well the singers cope, there is still some sense of rush.

Most successful among recent recordings are Solti (1994), Gardiner (1992), and Rattle (1995). All are "live", the first and last being of concert performances. Solti (with Renée Fleming and Anne Sophie von Otter) conducts the magnificent Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Gardiner and Rattle both find more fun, and Gardiner probes more surely towards the heart. His sisters are Amanda Roocroft and Ross Mannion. Böhm is the safe choice, Karajan charming; but **Gardiner's (Archiv 437 829-2, 3CDs, £45.49)** is the recording for the present day.

● *To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk*

● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am):* Edward Greenfield's Top Ten





CHOICE 1

Fascinating Aida transfers its mordant show across town

VENUE: At the Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue



CHOICE 2

Satirist supreme: the best of Hogarth goes on show in his tercentenary year

VENUE: Exhibition from today, Tate Gallery

THE TIMES

ARTS



OPERA

Britten's three church parables are presented together, if not in the right order



MUSIC

The Vienna Philharmonic excels in Bruckner under the direction of Daniel Barenboim

LONDON

FASCINATING AIDA. Brief transfer for the threesome, singing of showbiz, impossible men and middle age. Thirteen performances only. **Apollo,** Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5073). Opens tonight. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 3pm. Until March 15.

HOGARTH THE PAINTER. The Tate Gallery celebrates the 300th anniversary of the birth of William Hogarth by displaying its entire collection of works by the painter. The exhibition includes a dozen loans, including an early masterpiece, *A Scene from Dryden's "The Conquest of Mexico"*. **Tate Gallery,** Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000). Opens today. Then Daily, 10am-5.50pm. Until June 8.

ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT. Steven Isserlis joins the orchestra for Saint-Saens's Cello Concerto No 1, in a programme that includes music by Bizet and Faure. The conductor is Paavo Jarvi. **Queen Elizabeth Hall,** South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm.

ROMANCE, ROMANCE. Musical double-bill by Barry Harman and Keith Hermann, derived from a Schnitzler hit of love in old Vienna coupled with a modern version set on Long Island. Directed by Steven Dexter. Transfer from a sell-out run at the Bridewell. **Gielgud,** Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 5pm.

HEATHCLIFF. Panned by the critics, loved by the fans, Cliff Richard's musical treatment of Wuthering Heights reaches London after an extensive national tour. Helen Hobson plays Cathy, with songs by Tim Rice and direction by Frank Dunlop. **Labatts Apollo,** Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0171-416 6060). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until April 5.

LADY IN THE DARK. Never before seen in London, the 1941 musical by Moss Hart, Ira Gershwin and Kurt Weill. A fashion editor (Maria Friedman) visits her psychiatrist to tell of her dreams about three men. All songs except the linking ballad, *My Ship*, occur in the dream sequences. Directed by Francesca Zambello, best known for her work in opera. **National (Lyttelton),** South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing. 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.15pm. Opens March 11, 7pm. Then in rep.

LIVE & KIDDING. Maureen Lipman presents herself for a five-week season of musicology, humourology and many another ology. **Duchess,** Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens March 6. 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 3pm. Until April 5.

THE MESSAGE. Volcano Theatre Nigel Charnock and Tony Harrison join forces to explore the role of the messenger and witness through the ages. Vigour, passion and agile physical theatre. **Lyric,** King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until March 15.

THE POSITIVE HOUR. Margot Leicester, Kate Ashfield, Room Scene in a new Noel de Angelis play, co-produced with Out of Joint. Angst and other tensions trouble the self-examining classes. **Hampstead,** Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 5.30pm.

THE SHALLOW END. Doug Lucie's play, has out at the behaviour of international media-men but the result is unconvincing. **Royal Court Downstairs (Duke of York's),** St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm.

THE WHITE DEVIL. Gale Edwards's thrillingly erotic and violent production of Webster, up from Stratford, with Jane Gurnett, Ray Fearon, Richard McCabe and good performances right along the line. **Pit,** Barbican Centre, EC2 (0181-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm. In rep.

WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF HRT. Hit Irish comedy by Marie Jones, directed by Pam Brighton, with Marie Jones and Eileen Pollock as two women devoted to the singer Daniel O'Donnell, and Phelim Drew as the young waiter who answers their fantasies. **Vaudeville,** Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

ELSEWHERE

ABERDEEN: Scottish Opera presents a new production of Strauss's *Die Fledermaus*, directed by Giles Havergal (tonight, Thursday and Saturday). Tomorrow and Friday, the company performs one of its most enduring successes — Puccini's classic love story, *La boheme*. **His Majesty's,** Rosemount Viaduct (01224 641122). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm.

COVENTRY. Oxford Stage Company presents Charlotte Keatley's finely observed drama, **My Mother Said I Never Should,** which contrasts the lives of four women in one family to reveal the secrets and myths handed down from one generation to the next. **Warwick Arts Centre,** University of Warwick (01203 523524). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Thurs, 1.30pm.

MANCHESTER: Opera North begins a week's residency with a new production of Verdi's *Falstaff* (tonight and Friday), with Andrew Shore in the title role. Puccini's tragic love story, *Madama Butterfly*, with Chen Sue, is given tomorrow and Saturday, and Josephine Barstow sings the role of Elizabeth I in Britten's *Gloriana* (Friday). **Palace,** Oxford Street (0161-242 2503). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm.

WOKING. The dancer and choreographer **Laurie Booth** begins touring Britain with a performance at this year's Dance Umbrella. An innovative double-bill includes the premiere of a multi-media collaboration, *ACTual tACTual*, and the improvised dance event, *Stormgarden*. **Rhoda McGaw,** The Ambassadors, Peacock Centre (01483 761141). Tonight, 8pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Cadogan Contemporary Sarah Butterfield (0171-581 5451). **Catto** Sam Kell (0171-435 6660). **Commercial.** Elizabeth de Monchaux Passage (0171-247 9747). **Dover Street** Kate Malone (0171-409 1540). **Dulwich Picture** Dramatic Art: Theatrical Paintings from the Garrick Club (0181-693 5254). **Festival Hall** Yoko Ono and the Fluxus Movement (0171-960 4242). **Jill George** David Leverett: "Signs in the Sky" (0171-439 7319). **National,** Young Gainsborough (0171-747 2885). **Pentagram** Tony Evans (0171-229 3477). **Whitechapel** Tony Cragg (0171-522 7888).

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers** Phoenix (0171-369 1733). ☐ **Buddy** Strand (0171-930 8800). ◪ **Cats** New London (0171-405 0072). ◪ **Grease** Cambridge (0171-494 5080). ☐ **Jolson** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317). ☐ **Martin Guerre** Prince Edward (0171-447 5400). ☐ **The Mousetrap** St Martin's (0171-836 1443). ☐ **Oliver!** Palladium (0171-494 5020). ■ **The Phantom of the Opera** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400). ◪ **Starlight Express** Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054). ◪ **Sunset Boulevard** Adelphi (0171-344 0055). ☐ **The Woman in Black** Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

NEW RELEASES

◆ **BOUND** (18) Flashy thriller about two sultry lesbians and a pile of Mob money, with Jennifer Tilly and Gina Gershon. Directed by the Wachowski brothers. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148). **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323). **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214). **Mezzanine** (0181-315 4215). **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121). **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096). **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527).

◆ **THE CRUCIBLE** (12) Weighty version of Arthur Miller's play about 17th-century witchcraft, with Winona Ryder, Daniel Day-Lewis and best of all, Paul Scofield. Director, Nicholas Hytner. **Barbican** (0171-638 8891). **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214). **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215). **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216). **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220). **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121). **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990). **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096).

◆ **MARS ATTACKS!** (12) Tim Burton's silly and star-studded spoof of the alien invasion movie, with Jack Nicholson and Glenn Close. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323). **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705). **Odeons: Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216). **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220). **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121). **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520). **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990). **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636).

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Trocadero (0171-434 0031). **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343).

◆ **THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY** (12) Jane Campion's ably elegant adaptation of Henry James, with Nicole Kidman as the independent American sucked into a marriage in Europe. **Barbican** (0171-638 8891). **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323). **Gate** (0171-727 4043). **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691). **Phoenix** (0181-883 2323). **Rio** (0171-254 6677). **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121). **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772). **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366). **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990). **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636). **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527). **Warner** (0171-437 4343). **Watermans** (0181-568 1176).

CURRENT

GRACE OF MY HEART (15) Clichéd but tuneful ride through the American pop scene, with Illeana Douglas and John Turturro. Director, Allison Anders. **Empire** (0990 888990). **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990).

◆ **IN LOVE AND WAR** (15) Thin romantic drama from Richard Attenborough, based on Ernest Hemingway's wartime fling with a Red Cross nurse. With Sandra Bullock and Chris O'Donnell. **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214). **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343).

◆ **RANSOM** (15) Intermittently absorbing kidnap drama, with Mel Gibson, Rene Russo and Gary Sinise. Director, Ron Howard. **ABC Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148). **Odeons: Kensington** (0181-315 4214). **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216). **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220). **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990). **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096). **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636).

RIDICULE (15) Patrice Leconte's witty and diverting costume piece set in Louis XVI's court, with Fanny Ardant. **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742). **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722). **Richmond** (0181-332 0030). **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121).

◆ **STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT** (12) Patrick Stewart's Enterprise crew battles the Borgs. Acceptable adventure, if a little too serious. **Plaza** (0990 698993). **Virgin Trocadero** (0171-434 0031).

◆ **WHITE MAN'S BURDEN** (15) Underdog John Travolta claims justice from his employee, Harry Belafonte. Flawed presentation of an interesting premise. Director, Desmond Nakano. **Prince Charles** (0171-437 8181).

MUSIC: Revisionist Britten productions; majestic Vienna Philharmonic; stunning Vengerov

Sons and gay lovers

DONALD COOPER



The Prodigal Son: a subconscious allusion to Britten's own relationship with Auden?

Britten Church Parables
Birmingham

Thinking about seeing Britten's church parables in a cycle — all in one evening and with no more than half an hour between them — the most interesting question was what would happen in these unprecedented circumstances to *The Prodigal Son*. There was a distinct hope that, heard straight after the exoticisms of *Curlew River* and *The Burning Fiery Furnace*, it might take its place as the diatonic home-coming, the broad B flat major culmination of the series, rather than the anti-climax it is usually considered to be.

But that was on the assumption that the three works would be performed in chronological order, and in something like the traditional church-parable form. In fact, the City of Birmingham Touring Opera and Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, whose joint production this is, chose to present *The Prodigal Son* between the other two and — on the semantically dubious grounds that they are "not a trilogy but a triptych" — to impose no uniformity of style on the three directors involved. If *The Prodigal Son* did come out in a new light it was not because it had found its rightful place at last, but because it was, in a sense, wrongfully treated.

Using the whole stage area of Symphony Hall, importing stylistically alien props, dressing his singers (including the flat-capped trebles) in 1930s costume, presenting the temptation scene as a homoerotic fantasy, Mark Tinkler offered an intrusive but fascinating speculation on the subconscious motivation of the piece. The Tempter is a kind of W.H. Auden, the Younger Son a kind of Britten.

While it is worth remembering that it was neither Auden nor Britten but William Plomer who wrote the text, it is also true that the interpretation did set off some revelatory reverberations in the music. The unseductively jazzy city music, accompanying in this case a scene that looked like something from *Guys and Dolls* without the dolls, found its sleazy context. The long viola solo, reflecting the Younger Son's guilt-ridden despair and remembrance, emerged as the most profound inspiration in all the works.

The quality of the singing and instrumental playing, both of which had been exceptionally well prepared by Simon Halsey, remained on the same high level throughout the four-and-a-half-hour evening. Dramatic standards did not. Toby Wilsher's production of *Curlew River*, the most economical and traditionally church-parable of the three, let itself down when the Spirit of the dead boy materialised as a puppet to embrace his Madwoman mother at the climax of the piece.

In attempting to present *The Burning Fiery Furnace* as a kind of modern-dress biblical epic, Sean Walsh put too many diversions in the way of both the words and the music.

Bearing all that in mind, it might be a good idea, before the production goes on to the South Bank later this month, to revert to the chronological order and welcome home *The Prodigal Son* in its rightful place — at the end.

GERALD LARNER

Burnished Bruckner

Vienna PO/Barenboim
Festival Hall

LIKE MANY national institutions, the Vienna Philharmonic is under pressure to reform itself. Its no-women rule has become untenable, but this is only one of a number of previously unquestioned traditions currently under scrutiny. So perhaps it is not surprising that the orchestra has not been its sovereign self for some time. On Saturday, however, Daniel Barenboim drew from it a performance of Bruckner's Ninth Symphony of such awe-inspiring power as to nullify quibbles about woodwind tuning and brass mis-hits.

They began with Mozart's Symphony in A, K201, smothering it with all the *gemütlich* charm that these players habitually bring to "their" composer. You could not ask for a more exquisitely delivered Andante, but you could ask for a livelier, more stylish sense of phrasing, and more variety and animation in the articulation.

The Bruckner, by contrast, was magnificently conceived. The first movement was unfolded with exemplary patience and nobility. Each climactic tutti seemed less an isolated peak than a part of the mountain range, but the coda stormed the heavens themselves. Blazing brass and tremolando strings, reinforced by incisive wind, shook a collective fist to terrifying effect.

In the Scherzo, the orchestra seemed determined to refute any charge of complacency. The string players could hardly have dug deeper into their strings without severing them: bows flew in fearsome unison.

Barenboim is a progressive thinker with regard to the monumentalisation of Bruckner (notably during the Third Reich), but his Adagio finale could not have been more grandiose. It must surely be questionable whether Bruckner intended those climbing quavers to be so drawn out, especially as his marking is *Langsam* (slow), followed soon by *sehr langsam* (very slow), where Barenboim, by contrast, appears to get faster.

Yet it was all done with such conviction that doubts were swept away. This was a reading of towering authority that ultimately rendered criticism otiose.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Very happy birthday

Maxim Vengerov
Barbican

THERE can be few happier ways to celebrate a fifteenth birthday than to be serenaded by the violin playing of Maxim Vengerov. The Barbican Centre put behind it for once the politics, the programming and the PR, and luxuriated in an evening which began with a passionate performance of Elgar's Violin Sonata and ended with an exultantly schmaltzy *Happy Birthday* singalong.

In between, a generous programme of Shchedrin, Mozart and Tchaikovsky had pointed to many of the differing facets of Vengerov's own performing character: a physically thrilling virtuosity, a joyful lyrical fluency, and a deep, though always nicely elusive, vein of Slavic melancholy. He may be only 23, but Vengerov has the rare maturity to know that wit and human warmth are the *sine qua non* of musical performance.

Rodion Shchedrin's *Echo Sonata* can easily become an exercise in exciting but arid virtuosity. But Shchedrin himself was a great communicator and a great celebrator. This theme with nine devilish variations was written for the tercentenary of Bach's birth in 1985, and Vengerov found the reverence, the audacity and the sheer fun as the bow ricocheted through a skeletal *Siciliana*, sawed out a manic chorale, and summoned up the spectre of a Partita.

After this, Mozart was milk and honey. Despite the extraordinary technical perfection of Vengerov's performance of the B flat major Sonata K454, there was a sense of entirely new-minted music, recreated in a way which had never been heard before and would never be heard again.

This sense of the special occasion of each piece was felt, too, by Vengerov's pianist, Igor Uryash, to whom the ear was frequently drawn with delight. His contributions to the suite of Tchaikovsky miniatures assembled by Vengerov was discreetly remarkable: colouring and contouring the soft charcoal outlines of the violin's playing in the *Sérénade Mélancolique*, breathing with the most subtle movement of rubato and dynamics in the Méditation, and brightly costuming the flamboyant *Valse-Scherzo*.

HILARY FINCH

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LAW

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Gwynn Davis and **Hilary Woodward** on the price of breaking up



NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE

A split hurts — as in *The Divorce of Madame X* starring Merle Oberon and Laurence Olivier — even before the fees

Divorce's high cost

Access to justice is one mark of a civilised society. It can, however, be undermined in various ways — openly, through legislation, or by the back door through statutory instrument. The latter allowed the recent dramatic rise in court fees introduced by the Government over the Christmas recess. The increases affect the whole of the civil justice system, but are most striking in relation to divorce.

With effect from January 15 virtually every court fee in the divorce field has been increased by at least 50 per cent, and some have doubled or trebled. The fee for filing a divorce petition has increased from £80 to £150 — and this only 14 months after it was increased from £40.

Anyone with a disposable income of £75 a week or more will have to pay £150 to petition for divorce, plus a further £20 to secure a decree. They may apply for a discretionary reduction on hardship grounds, but this will require a further payment of £20. An identical application in other civil proceedings costs £10. It seems that the divorcing population has been singled out for special treatment.

New fees have been introduced into every step in the divorce process involving the court. Even consent applications attract a fee. Exemptions previously available have for the most part been abolished. Income Support claimants now pay £40 towards the court fees for divorce. (One claimant is seeking a judicial review to have the 1996 fees order declared unlawful.)

The fee increases have been introduced with minimal consultation. It is barely six months since the Legal Aid White Paper was published, and there was no suggestion then that such increases were on the way. The statutory instrument was laid before Parliament on December 19. No press notice was issued. It was virtually a covert operation, which may have devastating effects.

The lack of parliamentary time available to debate the fees issue is of course significant only if there is an effective Opposition committed to the principle of equality before the law. Paul Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, attacked the Government over the fee increases but, under pressure from Alex Carlile of the Liberal-Democrats, confessed that Labour would not overturn them.

The official reason for the increase is that the "cost recovery target" for the civil justice system has been increased to 100 per cent for 1997-98. So court fees are expected to cover virtually the entire cost of civil justice.

Sir Richard Scott, head of the civil justice system, denounced the increases as "thoroughly objectionable... judges are part of the constitutional framework of the State and I don't see any justification for their salaries being paid for in this way".

In the divorce context, the new fees cannot remotely be justified in terms of the workload imposed on the court. Yet £150 is payable to cover a few simple administrative and checking procedures.

There are several other aspects of divorce and other civil litigation that are far more costly in judicial time. The suspicion arises that fees have been increased as a deterrent to divorce. If so, it is a mistaken objective.

Divorce as a legal process is a consequence of relationship breakdown, not its cause. In most cases, the divorce petitioner will have already suffered the social, emotional and economic costs of separation.

The divorcing population includes many vulnerable people. Without divorce, they are unable to secure the remedies they need: accommodation, security for their children and freedom from violence. People who cannot afford legal help can end up in a mess.

The 1996 Family Law Act aimed to make those contemplating divorce think again. This figured prominently in the debate about the legislation. In fact, it has always been implausible to suppose that tinkering with divorce law has a significant impact on well-established social behaviour. Making divorce harder does not save marriages. The numbers petitioning for divorce may decline, but many will either separate without legal ceremony, or not marry in the first place.

Nonetheless, the appearance of a declining divorce rate would be a prize greatly valued if this could be presented as the product of a Family Law Act (which encountered fierce opposition from the "moral Right"). Now we have the brutal simplicity of a fee rise, which may achieve the Family Law Act's aspirations through economic force.

And where will this all end? If the aim is full-cost recovery, why not profit? Why not make each court an autonomous cost centre? Some litigants could not afford the fees, but corporations and wealthy individuals could permit some entrepreneur to make a success of the justice business. Divorce would revert to being the preserve of the wealthy. And poor people would conduct their lives as best they could, without troubling the judiciary or the Exchequer.

● *Ms Davis is a Professor of Socio-Legal Studies at the University of Bristol. Ms Woodward is a solicitor in family law. They are indebted to Andy King, secretary to the Bristol Solicitors' Family Law Association.*

The profession must speak with one voice

"The urgent quest of our time is whether we can make change our friend and not our enemy." Not my words — but the key to the future of the legal profession. Change is the most important issue facing solicitors in 1997 — changes in the way the country is governed, changes in the way business is done, changes in the way young people are educated, changes in the way consumers expect to be treated.

We have a simple choice. We can embrace change, be in the vanguard of reforms and prosper by adapting to a changing environment. Or we can stamp our feet, clamour vainly for protectionism and watch the world pass us by.

The world in which we do business is changing more quickly and more dramatically than ever before. The changes of the past ten years will seem insignificant in comparison with the next ten. We may very soon see a new government in the UK. Devolution and regional government may become realities. European monetary union — whether or not it includes the UK — will have major repercussions from the City to high street. Technological advances and the pressure for multidisciplinary practices, whether we like them or not, will not abate.

Outsiders will continue to try to win business from us. We cannot erect blocks at every turn to keep out the accountants, surveyors and their like. But we can beat them, and win business from them, by being better — and more responsive to what our clients want. The route to prosperity is to make solicitors the favoured choice of clients. Let no one pretend we can make ourselves the only choice.

We can adapt best to these and other changes by helping to shape them. We can achieve this only if the profession collectively puts forward compelling, collective and reasoned arguments to support our position. If we present a united front, and avoid selfish and self-serving arguments, we cannot be ignored and undermined. Only the Law Society is in a position to speak for all solicitors. That is why the future of the Law Society is important to every solicitor and why (after thrashing out the arguments in internal debate) the Law Society must speak with a united voice.

The Law Society's regulatory role will never be as popular with solicitors as its trade union function. But it underpins the standing of the Society. Strip it away and you would be left with a marginalised body easily ignored by government and others, while regulation would pass to an unelected quango.

We have to demonstrate our continuing right to self-regulation. The Law Society's commitment to attacking low standards and dishonesty among a minority of solicitors, backed up by the establishment of the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors, proves we can govern ourselves and provide clients with the protection they deserve. Snide attacks on the principle and practice of self regulation serve only to undermine the standing of the whole profession.

To keep pace with what our clients require we have to provide demonstrable ways of assuring expertise, efficiency and integrity. This means supporting initiatives such as practice management standards and meaningful accreditation schemes. To do this is not to undermine the generalist or the qualification of solicitor — it is to recognise that, if we do not introduce appropriate standards ourselves, others will inflict inappropriate standards on us. No competent solicitor need fear objective assessment of his or her ability to produce quality work. That is what today's, and tomorrow's, competitive marketplace dictates. We have to set the agenda ourselves and not be ruled by others.



PHILLIP SYCAMORE

The strength of the profession depends on the ability and character of the people it contains and those it can attract. We cannot attract the best and brightest young people to our profession by simply sitting back. We must make the profession an attractive place for the next generation. How do we do that? For starters, by avoiding the unedifying spectacle of squabbling among ourselves. Fundamentally, by taking positive steps to make the profession more attractive to those with the right qualities.

Higher court rights of audience may not be a top priority for those who have already qualified as solicitors and found their niche. But advocacy is a fundamental part of our professional training, and a skill essential to our future work. We must provide the next generation with an attractive and clear career progression if they are not to be lost to the Bar or elsewhere.

That is why, notwithstanding last week's disappointing news for employed solicitors, I am devoting a lot of my time to persuading the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Legal Education and Conduct to provide a simpler, clearer path for solicitors to higher court rights of audience. The Society will continue to press for more extensive rights of audience for employed solicitors.

It is important to ensure that Chancery Lane is run as efficiently as possible. That is why we employ professional people to work there. We council members must establish policies that reflect the interests of the profession, to whom we are democratically accountable, and we must ensure that the Society's staff are accountable to us. If just cause arises, we must not shirk from criticising them or take more serious steps. But this should not become an obsession. We cannot, and should not, try to second-guess every decision, however small, taken by staff members in good faith.

How sad that a few strident voices continue to harp on about lamentable failures of the past, because they wish to distract attention from the action which is being taken to build the successes of the future.

We cannot afford to be inward-looking and divisive. We must be one profession speaking with one voice. That is the way to be heard.

● *The author is vice-president of the Law Society.*

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ZMB

Audience agreement

THE last-minute agreement which suddenly emerged from the Lord Chancellor and four most senior judges over rights of audience for employed lawyers was a late compromise cobbled together after weeks of failed attempts to square the circle between the judges.

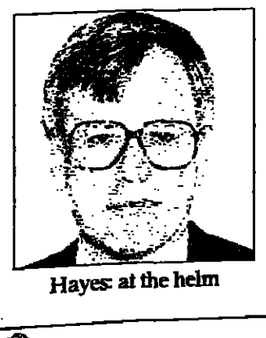
Lord Mackay of Clashfern had the backing of both Lord Bingham of Cornhill and Lord Woolf. But Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, and Sir Richard Scott, the Vice-Chancellor, had serious concerns about the Crown Prosecution Service lawyers being granted rights at Crown Court. Until a few days ago, there was an impasse.

None of the judges wished to have a public disagreement, so it was a matter of finding a formula to which they could all sign up. Prospects looked remote until suddenly, early last week, officials found the "lowest common denominator" — barring CPS lawyers from taking cases on their own. Could it be that the proposal in Michael Howard's report last week to legislate on rights of audience acted as an incentive? At any rate, honour was preserved.

INNS AND OUTS

Watching briefs

AS THE *Law Society Gazette* put it, "watchdogs are not born, they are bred" — clearly at the Society's Chancery Lane headquarters.



Hayes: at the helm

Tony Holland, a former Society President, has recently been announced as the new principal ombudsman at the Personal Investment Authority. In January, David Thomas, a former council member became the Banking Ombudsman, and late last year Walter Merricks, former senior society official and head of policy, took over as Insurance Ombudsman. On top of that, John Hayes, former secretary-general, is at the helm of the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority.

The Bar may have kept its hold on jury trials, but the Law Society has cornered the watchdog market.

● *PROFESSOR Andrew Ashworth has been appointed to the plum legal academic post of Vinerian Professor of Criminal Law from September this year. Professor Ashworth, who is of King's College London, has edited* Criminal Law Review *for 20 years and is well known for his work and views on sentencing and the need for a sentencing council to ensure consistency.*

Wise words

THE SECRET of finding a good conveyancing solicitor has finally been revealed. The pearl of wisdom can be found in the new *Which?* guide on moving home: *Which? Way to Buy, Sell and Move House.* The book, by the Norfolk solicitors Alison and Richard Barr, says cheap conveyancing solicitors may be cutting corners.

It tells its readers to seek advice from someone "who has used a particular licensed conveyancer or solicitor and still thinks that he or she is wonderful when it is all over".

SCRIVENOR

CORRECTION

● *An article,* Mistrial by Media *(February 25), wrongly stated that the* Daily Mail *challenged Colin Stagg's acquittal for the murder of Rachel Nickell.*

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The Dual Role

Negotiating on your own behalf is notoriously difficult, yet that's what candidates on the job-market are doing all the time. They may be excellent when acting for clients, but they find it difficult to play the roles of negotiator and prospective employee simultaneously. How to be tough and canny while at the same time making a good impression as a candidate?

Not long ago, a candidate began discussions with a firm which suited him perfectly. Things went well, and at the final interview he was asked about prospects at his current firm. By this stage, he was relaxed and open with the new firm, and in this spirit of openness he mentioned that he was waiting to hear whether he would be offered partnership. So far so good. But he then added that if partnership was offered he would take it. Not so good. He was virtually telling the new firm that he was only seeing them to secure a fall-back position. His interviewer, not surprisingly, was unimpressed. The fact that the candidate had been honest counted for nothing in comparison with the snub he had delivered.

It is tempting to play the candidate role to the exclusion of the negotiating role. As a candidate, it seemed entirely reasonable for him to explain his predicament. If he'd been thinking as a negotiator he would have said that partnership might be offered, but that he was keen on the new firm and would take the necessary decision if and when the new firm made him an offer.

Michael Chambers

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Closing date: 27th March 1997.

OFFICE of the RAIL REGULATOR

Latest battle in the whisky war

Neil Addison on how liquor litigation has caused strife through the centuries

What is whisky? This delicate issue will soon be decided by judges in the High Court in an action in which the Scotch whisky industry is suing a distillery on the Isle of Man.

The industry claims the Manx liquor is not real because it is colourless, an effect achieved by redistilling it when it has been matured. This procedure, say the Scots, stops it being real whisky.

The water of life and the law have intermingled for centuries. Whether Scotland or Ireland first invented whisky is a never-ending argument.

But fundamental differences between Irish whiskey and Scotch whisky today arise from English laws. The former English Malt Tax applied in Ireland, but not in Scotland. So to avoid the tax, Irish distillers began to mix unmalted barley in their pot stills and this mix needed three distillations.

Today, Irish whiskey is still triple distilled and mixes malted and unmalted barley. Scotch is double distilled and uses only malt — two distinct traditions which arose simply out of tax avoidance.

In Scotland, the imposition of the Malt Tax in 1713 led to the first Jacobite rising in 1715 and a nationwide illegal distilling industry. Legal Scottish distilling began after new legislation in 1823 and Scotch soon began to be sold in England.

The sale of blended Scotch whisky today is a major Scottish industry, but it was nearly stopped by an English magistrates' court. In 1905 Islington magistrates declared that Scottish blended whisky was not whisky at all.

The Scots had found that straight malt whisky was too powerful for the sensitive English palate and began to blend malt whisky with lighter, mechanically distilled grain whisky — blends declared by the court to be not true whisky.

Indignant, Scottish distillers pressed for a royal commission. This concluded in 1908 that blended whisky which was properly matured was whisky.

Across the Atlantic the first test of the power of the US President arose in the "Whiskey Rebellion" of 1794, which began because of the Federal Whiskey Tax.

There were doubts as to whether state militia could be legally used to enforce federal law but President Washington successfully did so to end the rebellion.

The Canadian Mounties also owe their origins to whisky. In 1874 "whiskey-sodden American brigands", as they were described, were busy selling a poisonous brand of whiskey to Indians from armed bases such as "Fort Whoop Up" in Alberta.

It was the increasing lawlessness arising from this trade which led the Canadian Government to create the Mounted Police who quickly sent the whiskey traders back to America.

> 'The Malt Tax led to the first Jacobite rising in 1715'

Having got rid of American whiskey, the Canadians set up their own distilleries and provided much of the illegal whiskey drunk in America during Prohibition. Because Canadians use rye rather than barley, they lighten the flavour with neutral grain spirit. American distillers argued that this mixture was not true whiskey and in 1906 had 6,000 cases of Canadian whiskey seized by the US authorities. A presidential commission eventually arrived at a similar verdict to the UK royal commission and Canadian whisky achieved international acceptability.

Today, whisky is a multimillion pound international industry with many new countries entering the market. All of them share the problem of staying true to the legal definition of whisky while projecting a unique identity in an overcrowded market.

Meanwhile, Japan, with its large domestic whisky industry, is coming under increasing pressure from the British, American, Canadian and Irish Governments to open up its markets.

The issue is likely to be referred to the World Trade Organisation. So whisky should continue to line the pockets as well as warm the hearts of the world's lawyers.

Romance turned to tragedy when Janette Pink met the man of her dreams in Cyprus. **Frances Gibb** reports



So in love: Jan Ruston with the Greek-Cypriot fisherman Pavlos Georgiou in the Torodos Mountains of Cyprus

HIV victim seeks justice against her lethal lover

Janette Pink has just a short time to live. Her death from Aids will be a tragic end to a *Shirley Valentine*-style holiday romance, which began three years ago on the island of Cyprus.

She went there to begin a new life after the end of her 20-year marriage to a wealthy City accountant. Three months after her arrival, she befriended a Greek Cypriot fisherman, Pavlos Georgiou. He confided that his wife was dying of cancer and Janette fell in love, unaware that her lover was concealing a deadly secret: he was HIV positive.

Their relationship continued for 18 months, during which time Mr Georgiou knowingly infected Ms Pink with the virus as he had already done with his wife and youngest son. She ignored the warnings of friends until they persuaded her to take blood tests. The second proved positive. She has now returned to Basildon in Essex to die.

Since her story was first revealed, there have been newspaper reports that Mr Georgiou may have infected many other women — not only in Cyprus, but also in London where he worked as a self-employed builder, living with his wife and children in Enfield, north London, between 1979 and 1989.

In the last few months, Ms Pink — whose story is told tonight on BBC1's *Inside Story: A Deadly Secret* — has campaigned to bring Mr Georgiou to justice. But the law has proved unable to help. Sir Teddy Taylor, her sister Sharon's MP, has sought to introduce a Private Members' Bill to make it illegal for someone knowingly to pass on HIV, but with no success.

That was the latest attempt to reform a difficult area of law which the Government has so far resisted. In 1992, Kenneth Clarke, then Home Secretary, ruled out creating a criminal offence of knowingly transmitting HIV, arguing there were difficulties of both principle and practice.

"I am not persuaded," he said, "that these difficulties have been overcome in other jurisdictions."

His decision followed a review of the law that year, set up when it was discovered that a Birmingham man with Aids had allegedly infected several women. Mr Clarke echoed the views of lawyers such as John Spencer, Reader of Law at Cambridge University, who has argued that the criminal law already covered such behaviour; and that civil claims for damages might also be possible, so new laws were not needed.

Abroad, the law has moved more quickly. Several Australian states have a specific offence which covers deliberate transmission of the virus. In Western Australia, those who knowingly infect others face fines of up to £8,000.

In America the courts have held that the existing law on assault, in particular assault with a deadly weapon; can be held to cover deliberate transmission of HIV.

Some American states outlaw sexual intercourse for people who know they have sexually transmissible diseases and Colorado and Indiana allow health officials to place restrictions on people with HIV who expose others to risk.

In Britain, in theory, charges of murder or manslaugher could be considered. But the prosecution faces the problem of proving the necessary *mens rea:* that the accused intended to cause the death of the victim.

Lesser offences could be considered. There was a landmark ruling in 1888 called *Clarence*, in which a husband infected his wife with gonorrhoea. It was thrown out by the courts on the ground that his behaviour did not amount to an "assault" on his wife, nor constitute "inflicting harm".

In today's changed social circumstances, lawyers agree courts might take a different view. The law remains unclear, however. The law on assaults dates back to the 1861 Offences Against The Person Act, which includes offences of causing or inflicting grievous bodily harm.

The act is muddled and the Law Commission, the Government's law reform body, proposed in 1993 an overhaul of the law and drafted a Bill that creates a new definition of injury. This would extend to cover intentional or reckless inflicting of serious injury — including illness or disease.

To date the Government has not responded. In the meantime, Ms Pink's chances of pursuing her ex-lover remain slim. Under the Cypriot penal code, Article 190 makes it an offence knowingly to spread such a disease. But the Attorney-General there has declined to prosecute Mr Georgiou because of the difficulty in proving that he had the necessary intent to kill, beyond reasonable doubt and secondly that she did not know that her lover was infected.

It is debatable also whether the criminal law is the right weapon in such tragic cases. The Terrence Higgins Trust argues there should not be a specific offence singling out HIV for special treatment and says that transmission of the virus should not be a "seriously disabling injury" under the Law Commission's proposals; and that failure to disclose the virus should not of itself give rise to criminal consequences. Sexual intercourse, it argues, is a joint venture; "each party bears some responsibility for what happens".

Mark Stephens, a solicitor with Stephens Innocent, who has experience of Aids clients, agrees. "If you criminalise people with Aids," he says, "you drive it underground and more people within the community are at risk of getting sexually transmitted diseases."

Even the civil law would be difficult to use in such cases. "Casual sex carries a risk of sexually transmitted disease," he adds. "You can argue that if you know you have Aids, you owe a greater duty of care to people with whom you have intercourse. But in turn you can argue that they also bear some responsibility. So a claim might be difficult and perhaps not desirable. The law is too blunt an instrument to deal with something as tangled as people's emotional and sexual welfare."

● Inside Story, *BBC1, tonight, 10.25.*

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You will have a minimum of five years' post qualification experience comprising a broad mix both wet and dry work, preferably gained with a leading City shipping practice. Ideally, you will also hold a master mariners certificate and be able to demonstrate practical experience combined with a high level of commercial acumen. Versatility and the ability to work as part of a team to provide clients with the highest level of service are essential.

Applications should be made with full CV in confidence to box number 3625, Times Newspapers Limited, P.O. Box 3553, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9GA

Interviews will be held in London in mid March.

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: BOX No. .....

c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS P.O. BOX 3553, VIRGINIA ST, LONDON, E1 9GA

NON-CONTENTIOUS CONSTRUCTION

Our Client is one of the country's major law firms. Construction has always been core to the practice and is just one of many areas in which it is a market leader. It is a firm which has made a name for itself through exceptional focus on commitment and quality whilst recognising individuality. It is a firm where you can make a name for yourself also.

Instructed by an impressive client list of long standing, which includes household name development and construction companies, the Construction Department advises on all aspects of multi-million pound developments, projects and PFI work in the UK and internationally.

PARTNER

Join one of London's premier construction practices as a junior partner. No following required. With work at record levels the Department seeks to appoint an additional partner to advise on non-contentious construction and projects work. You will be a senior assistant/associate (with at least 5 years' relevant experience) or a junior partner and have reached a crucial stage in your career where a sense of purpose and direction is essential but currently lacking.

ASSISTANT

In addition the firm seeks an assistant with 1-4 years' experience, also to specialise in non-contentious work, with a background in private practice or local government.

These excellent opportunities will enable you to join a dynamic firm which is quick to reward drive, initiative and success.

QD QUARRY DOUGALL

*For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Adrian Fox** or **Emma Cowell** on 0171-405 6062 (0171-627 3674 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Quarry Dougall Recruitment**, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.*

TOP JOBS

PENSIONS *To £48,000*
There is arguably no better place to be a pensions lawyer than at this leading niche firm that is totally dedicated to the subject. It offers a great range of work for some impressive clients to lawyers with 0-5 years' pqe. Will gladly consider newly qualifieds without experience but with enthusiasm. Ref: T37754

MEDIA/IT *To £49,000*
The exciting new openings at this top City firm just go to prove what a great specialism the media is. Excellent work and even better prospects are on offer to a media/communications/entertainment lawyer with 3-4 years' pqe and an IT/IP lawyer with 2-4 years' pqe. Ideal client base. Ref: T38064

PLANNING *To £59,000*
This top 10 City firm has a planning capability to match its status. A lawyer with 3-5 years' pqe could not have planned it any better. Work will concentrate on planning appeal matters, including advocacy, negotiation of planning documentation and environmental assessments for major developments. Ref: T37524

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY *To £55,000*
An excellent and diverse property client base; an extremely broad range of transactions, including development work and major acquisitions; genuine promotion prospects; the chance to develop commercial instincts. The perfect job for commercial property lawyers with 0-2 and 3-5 years' pqe. Ref: T37029

CAPITAL MARKETS *To £70,000*
This top 15 City firm has one of the very strongest banking teams in the field and it is rapidly building up a top notch capital markets capability. As well as a great future, this job offers a lawyer with 4-5 years' pqe the chance to develop skills and ideas in an innovative practice with few repetitive transactions. Ref: T19803

CONSTRUCTION *To £38,000*
This is a very responsible position as second in command of the construction department of a top 15 City firm. To make the best of a great opportunity, you will have 2-3 years' pqe, ideally in professional indemnity/negligence claims, building contracts and insolvency. Also some non-contentious work. Ref: T38009

EMPLOYMENT *To £46,000*
This newsworthy top 10 firm could be the place to be for the foreseeable future as it makes a big stride up into the very top league. It is certainly an exciting place to be, especially for an employment lawyer with 2-4 years' pqe who is keen on a good mix of contentious and non-contentious matters. Ref: T36557

EC/COMPETITION *To £60,000*
To combine two of the most challenging areas of law at the moment - competition and media - look no further than the bright future offered by this leading City firm. The work for a lawyer with 3-5 years' pqe will split 50/50 between media and more general work. Pure media experience not required. Ref: T24968

BANKING *To £70,000*
Not only can you expect a great mix of work at this top 20 City firm - banking, securities, derivatives and regulatory matters - but the climb up the partnership ladder is promisingly fast. You must have good commercial experience, not just regulatory, as work splits 60% banking/finance and 40% regulatory. Ref: T12020

ENERGY *To £65,000*
Give your career a major boost by joining the cutting edge energy practice of this leading top 10 City firm. You will come either from in-house or a leading energy private practice, have 3-5 years'-pqe and, ideally, some oil exposure. This could be the spark you need to take you to partnership. Ref: T33483

TAX *Reading To £Exceptional*
The Reading office of one of the most exciting and newsworthy practices in the country is a great place to be right now. Top quality City work without the City bother, plus a very competitive package, all add up to a wonderful opportunity for a quality tax lawyer with 4-5 years' pqe. Ref: T19803

IP *To £50,000*
IP lawyers looking to make your first move - look no further. One of the top five IP practices in the country needs you to undertake a quite breathtaking range of quality non-contentious work. If you have 1-2 years' pqe and the desire to help this firm maintain its position as the very best. Ref: T16037

US FIRM CORPORATE *£48,000-£90,000*
This is the business, even among the US firms. A corporate/commercial lawyer with 0-6 years' pqe at a leading City firm who joins this top rank Wall Street firm's London office can expect: a wonderful package; the chance to travel and even work abroad; help to qualify in New York; and a great lifestyle. Ref: T34777

IT/COMPUTERS *Home Counties To £Partnership*
This is the life for a senior IT/computer specialist. Excellent quality of life working at one of the leading firms in the South and even better quality of work building up a computer-related practice from some very promising beginnings as high tech firms flood into the area. Related degree would help. Ref: T26166

*For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Stephen Rodney, Seamus Hoar** or **Greg Abrahams** (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-354 3079 or 0171-403 5727 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.*

QD QUARRY DOUGALL

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LITIGATION - NEWBURY - Progressive, well managed practice seeks Sol 3 years + PQE for key role. Plaintiff PI + general contract. Top Sal/prospects. Call Macdonald & Company. (Ary) Tel: 01747 828337 Fax: 01747 828047.

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We are seeking applications from qualified solicitors with one/three years post-qualification experience in financial services and regulatory law and practice.

Please send a full CV, stating salary, to:-

Miss J Green
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Haywards Heath
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Telephone 01444-418125

Closing date for applications - 18th March 1997.

Lectureship in Public Law

Department of Law

In order to further strengthen its distinguished research reputation the Department of Law wish to appoint a lecturer with expertise in any area of Public Law, although an interest in judicial review will be particularly welcome. A willingness to teach in other areas depending on his or her interests and expertise would be desirable.

The Department was awarded a 5 in the recent RAE and its teaching is rated 'excellent'. Its research in the area of judicial review is supported by substantial ESRC funding.

The person appointed will have potential to carry out research and to write at the highest level of excellence. As well as carrying out research they will help teach on undergraduate core courses in Public Law, and may be involved in teaching on the new LLM in Public Law to be launched in October 1997.

Informal enquiries may be made to Maurice Sunkin on (01206) 872560.

This permanent appointment will be made on the Lecturer A scale, £15,593 - £20,424 per annum.

Application details may be obtained by telephoning Colchester (01206) 872482 (24 hours), quoting reference L/153 or by writing to the Personnel Section, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ. Closing date: 25 March 1997.

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University of Essex

Ever wanted to tell your Bank just where to go?

Lombard Bank, a subsidiary of the UK's largest finance house Lombard North Central Plc, are enjoying phenomenal success within the personal loans sector. Continual expansion leads us to strengthen our Legal Services Department, based at impressive Head Office premises in Enfield. We are now seeking to appoint a talented Solicitor with the expertise to provide vital support throughout a range of commercial specialisations, and the ambition to take on increased responsibility.

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Enfield

Reporting to the Company Solicitor and Compliance Manager, you will be required to advise, depurise, draft and negotiate within key operational areas of:

- Consumer Credit - including both loan and licensing requirements
- Contracts - drafting on our behalf, and review submissions to the Bank
- Marketing - legal clearance on issues including television and press advertising
- Company - preparing various material and filing statutory returns
- Data Protection - including registration, disclosure clauses, subject access requests and relevant Data Protection Registrar correspondence
- Personal Banking - including confidentiality issues and preparation of returns

You will also be involved with trade mark and intellectual property matters, and provide debt recovery assistance for our Collections Department - drawing on the services of independent advisors where applicable.

Two years' post qualification experience, together with a sound knowledge of latest developments in commercial law are pre-requisites to success in this role. Applicants should be conscientious, pragmatic problem solvers, able to prioritise a demanding workload and grasp new issues quickly. Excellent communication skills will be essential for 'unravelling' complex issues and relating them effectively to staff at all levels. You should be confident, outgoing and a good team player, with the drive to 'grow' beyond your immediate brief.

As one of the most a progressive companies in the financial sector, we offer excellent scope for advancement, together with an attractive salary and comprehensive benefits package.

Please apply in writing, enclosing a full CV, to:
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Lombard Bank, Lombard House,
339 Southbury Road, Enfield,
Middlesex EN1 1TW

Lombard Bank



SIEMENS

IN-HOUSE LAWYER

Northern Home Counties

Siemens GEC Communication Systems Group is a recently formed joint venture - combining the global expertise and resources of 2 market leaders, Siemens and GEC. Working together, as one, our twin goals are excellence and success. To help us achieve these goals, we now need an experienced and motivated in-house lawyer to join the Legal Department.

The role will include vetting, negotiation and drafting of contracts and general legal advice and support across the company.

Your profile: a commercially astute lawyer, 2 - 3 years' PQE with in-house experience, particularly with contracts. Intellectual property and competition law experience would be desirable, as would knowledge of the IT or telecommunications industries.

Your rewards will include an attractive salary, company car and a benefits package commensurate with a large, world class organisation.

Please write with full career and salary details, in confidence, to Ian Ruddy, Personnel Manager, Siemens GEC Communication Systems Limited, Siemens House, 450 Capability Green, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 3LU. E-mail: ian.ruddy@sgcs.co.uk

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GLOBAL US LAW FIRM

LONDON OFFICE

Corporate — 3 to 6 years' pqe

£60,000-£100,000

Project Finance — 5 to 7 years' pqe

Established in the US in the late 19th century, our Client is one of the World's largest and geographically diverse law firms with offices throughout the United States, Europe, the Middle East and the Asia Pacific region.

Our Client was one of the first US law firms to open an office in London. The Firm's London office has grown steadily, concentrating on the core areas of cross-border mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, tax and litigation. As a full multi-national partnership, the London office consists of both UK and US lawyers.

The Firm is strongly committed to the continued expansion of its international practice and is seeking to recruit additional UK qualified lawyers in the following fields:

CORPORATE

- Representing Fortune 500 companies and other multinationals in a broad range of cross-border M&A and corporate finance transactions.

PROJECT FINANCE

- Representing developers and/or lenders in international limited or non-recourse project financing transactions.

Our Client values its lawyers and sees their retention and development as key to its success. You will enjoy a supportive working environment, excellent quality work and genuine prospects for partnership. Remuneration will be competitive and will reflect US rates.

QD QUARRY DOUGALL

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Jonathan Marsden or Alison Jacobs at Quarry Dougall Recruitment on 0171 405 6062 (0171 731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171 831 6394

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCING SOLICITORS

Expanding South West London Solicitors require:

1. Experienced Company/Commercial Solicitor.
2. Experienced Commercial Conveyancing Solicitor.

Partnership prospects. Might suit smaller firm looking to merge or Solicitors with own following , but not essential.

We are an equal opportunities employer.

Apply with CV to James Fairclough at Evill and Coleman, 113 Upper Richmond Road, Putney. SW15 2TL.

TURKS and CAICOS ISLANDS

Leading Caribbean law firm seeks Barrister seven plus years call to act as Senior Litigation Associate responsible for most litigation matters for a 12 lawyer attorney's practice. British Colony. US$70,000 plus, tax free. Considerable commercial trial experience desirable.
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Small specialist Dry Cargo City firm requires solicitor 5/10 years PQE partner potential with own clients. Plus assistant solicitor suit newly qualified, both to be adaptable, hard working, informal and sense of humour.

Please Reply to Box No 3276

TROWERS & HAMLINS

Solicitors - 0-2 years' pqe

Working at the interface between the public and private sectors on large one-off transactions, with initiatives including PFI projects, asset transfers, externalisations and urban regeneration, you will draw together multi-disciplinary teams of lawyers from all departments of the firm. Throughout the guidance and management of these projects, you will aim to provide innovative solutions and deploy a deep understanding of the legal regimes of both sectors.

These are roles which will see you out of the office rather than in. You will spend the majority of your time with clients, providing the level of expertise which will gain them business advantage.

You'll be creating something new with each project you tackle, be it a joint venture between the public and private sectors, a PFI project, or the transfer of a leisure facility. You will also be building on the firm's success, evidenced by our continuous growth over the past decade.

You should have 0 - 2 years' PQE with genuine credibility, presence and strong commercial sense. You will also be academically impressive and have the ability to inspire confidence at all levels. We will provide training for this specialised yet wide-ranging position.

We will give you every opportunity to take early responsibility in a client-facing role. You can also look forward to the kind of remuneration package which rewards such responsibility.

For further information in complete confidence please contact our consultants, **Yvonne Smyth** or **Sally Horrox** on **0171-377 0510** (0181-995 3396 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Zarak Macrae Brenner**, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail **yvonne@zmb.co.uk**

ZMB

COMPANY SECRETARY

FOUNDED IN 1976, CIA Group PLC, through its subsidiaries in Europe and the Far East provides media communications services, including media planning and buying, to a wide range of domestic and multinational clients.

The Group, which is fully quoted and currently handles media advertising revenues of around £1 billion, has expanded considerably in recent years and, following a recent internal promotion, is seeking to recruit a Company Secretary for its UK holding company and its trading subsidiaries.

Reporting at board level, you will be responsible for a wide range of duties, including servicing board meetings, advising the senior UK management on the legal implications of trading and corporate activities and negotiating and preparing client and supplier contracts.

CIA

You will also advise in a wide range of other legal areas including employment, intellectual property, health and safety and data protection.

The successful candidate, who will have at least three years' commercial experience, will be required to *demonstrate commercial acumen and pragmatism, whilst* continuing to operate within legal parameters, will also need flexibility and the ability to work under pressure. Excellent interpersonal skills and computer literacy are essential.

This is a senior position within a dynamic organisation and will require significant commitment which will be rewarded by an attractive package and a pleasant and stimulating working environment.

CVs in confidence to Fiona Boxall at the address below.

CHAMBERS PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

23 LONG LANE, LONDON EC1A 9HL TELEPHONE: (0171) 606 8844 FAX: (0171) 600 1793

LAWYER

Planet 24 is one of the largest and most successful independent television production companies in the UK. Our business interests are expanding and diversifying and now encompass both television and radio in the UK, Eastern Europe and the US.

We are now looking for a UK qualified lawyer with a minimum of two years' experience to join the existing legal team. The successful applicant will be able to deliver under pressure in a fast paced creative environment. Excellent drafting skills are essential and experience of television related work would be an advantage. This is a brilliant opportunity for a young lawyer to specialise in the media sector.

Applications to be made in writing to the address below, enclosing a full CV and contact details and quoting reference: T31

Andrew Rajan
Head of Legal and Business Affairs
Planet 24
The Planet Building
Thames Quay, 195 Marsh Wall
London E14 9SG

PLANET 24

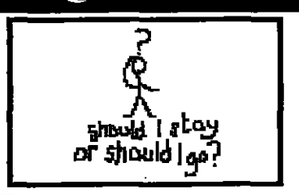
Planet 24 is committed to equal opportunities.



Newly Qualified IP/Media • In-House

Never before have we witnessed such a demand for lawyers wishing to specialise in IP/IT and Multimedia work. Unusually firms are now casting their net wider and are considering Corporate lawyers (or in the case of Film Finance , Banking lawyers)to move into this rapidly expanding area. In particular, the market is booming for IP specialists and opportunities exist for candidates wishing to develop their expertise especially in the Competition and Technology spheres. If you are interested in a change of atmosphere to a young dynamic team, a move for strong partnership opportunities or a move into a new related area of practice then we would be happy to discuss this with you in complete confidence. Current *opportunities include:*

- **Multimedia NQ-4**
- **IP Partner Designate**
- **Head of IT-No following required**
- **IT/Telecoms 1-5 yrs**
- **Competition/IP 1-4 yrs**
- **IP litigators 1-6 yrs**
- **Corporate/IT 2-5 yrs**
- **IP/Defamation 1-2 yrs**
- **Music/TV/Film 4-10 yrs**
- **IP-Scientific background NQ-5 yrs**
- **Film 2-5yrs**
- **IP/Commercial 1-4 yrs**



If you are a second year trainee, you are *likely to be starting to consider the* all-important question of which area you wish to specialise in when you qualify. With the market picking up across the country, there are more opportunities available to newly qualified solicitors than there have been for several years. Even if you are likely to be kept on at your current firm, you may wish to hear about the alternative opportunities in your area. If you would like a general chat about the market generally, salary levels, or specific vacancies which may be of interest, please call **Melanie Mitchell-Baker (North/Midlands)**, **Liz Neser (South East/South West)** or **Caroline Fish (London)** in complete confidence. Listed below are the areas where we have particularly strong contacts:

London	Newcastle
Leeds/Sheffield	Cambridge
Manchester	Bristol/Cardiff
Newcastle	Oxford/Reading
Birmingham	Southampton

Trade/Transport 6yrs+
Leading energy co seeks senior lawyer to advise trading/transport divs. Broad based commodities, risk management & marine transportation exp'ce sought. Languages an advantage. Salary to c£60k +bens.

Global Commercial to £55k
Great role for bright commercial lawyer, 3yrs+ pqe with young, lively specialist team to at high-tech co where you will deal with all aspects of major int'l contracts and some JV work. Travel- mainly European.

EC/Competition 3-6yrs
Two top multinationals seek EC/Competition lawyers with strong commercial approaches. Mainly merger regulation and JV work. Opportunity to move into a broader commercial role. Good packages/prospects.

Tax/Trusts NQ-2yrs
London based international trust company seeks a bright young lawyer with trusts, tax, and offshore experience to work closely with the company's top management and clients.

Media/IT Company 2 - 3 yrs
Dynamic co seeks City trained, outgoing lawyer to handle range of commercial, IT and EC work within small, expanding team. Great first in-house move into a fast developing sector and company

For further information, please call Sophie Brooks (IP-London), Melanie Mitchell-Baker (NQ-Regions) or Struan Hall (In-House) on 0171 430 1711, or write to Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax: 0171 831 4186.

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Many firms are searching for high quality property lawyers – few can offer such high quality work in return.

Berwin Leighton has been ranked consistently in the legal press as a leading firm for property work. We act on a regular basis for FTSE 100 companies, institutions, developers, investors, retailers, banks and government bodies.

We are continually breaking new ground in the property sector, particularly in the PFI field. The variety and scale of our projects increases constantly. Work levels and billings are over 30% ahead of this time last year.

Success means expansion. We are looking for lawyers who have 1-5 years' relevant experience, intellectual and commercial acumen, commitment and partnership aspirations. Above all, you will be keen to join a firm where your individual contribution will be positively encouraged and rewarded.

At Berwin Leighton, quality comes first. If your sense of purpose matches ours, we would like to meet you.

*To find out more about Berwin Leighton, please contact our retained consultants, **Stephen Rodney** or **Alison Jacobs** on 0171-405 6062 (0171-354 3079 or 0171-731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.*

BERWIN LEIGHTON

Professional Support Lawyers

Norton Rose, a leading City of London and International Law Firm, is dedicated to providing the highest standards of service to its clients. To achieve this excellence, our Professional Resources Group plays a pivotal role in providing information, know-how, research services and training throughout the Firm.

We are now seeking to appoint additional lawyers to join the support services teams in our Corporate Finance and Competition/EC Departments. These appointments demand strong technical skills and recent experience in the Corporate Finance or Competition/EC fields. An awareness and understanding of the applications of information technology and practical computer skills are essential.

As very much a team player and member of the Professional Resources Group, you will be instrumental in assisting and training lawyers, keeping them up to date with legal developments and preparing newsletters with a marketing slant.

This is an opportunity to develop your expertise within a stimulating, professional environment.

For further information and details of our opportunities for career development, highly competitive salary and benefits package please send your CV to Celia Staples by Wednesday 18 March 1997.

NORTON ROSE

Norton Rose

Kempson House, Camomile Street, London EC3A 7AN.
Telephone: 0171 283 6000.
Fax: 0171 283 6500.

LONDON HONG KONG BRUSSELS PARIS SINGAPORE BAHRAIN PIRAEUS MOSCOW

TEMPORARY RELIEF

CAPITAL MARKETS
Investment house seeks a solicitor/barrister with around 2 years' pqe to assist with a heavy workload. Candidates should ideally have experience of master agreements, ISDA documentation and repos. ***Ref: 37953***

COMMERCIAL
Barrister/solicitor, with around 3-4 years' commercial experience gained either in-house or in private practice, sought by this leading company in the energy sector. Position will be London based., Contract is to start as soon as possible for 6 months. ***Ref: 37486***

CORPORATE TAX
Highly regarded commercial firm seeks an experienced corporate tax solicitor with a minimum of 3 years' pqe to cover for a maternity leave. Immediate start. ***Ref: 38045***

EMPLOYMENT/IT
Solicitor/barrister sought by this IT company based in the M4 Corridor. Candidates should ideally be around 6 years' pqe with contentious and non-contentious employment experience, as well as software licensing. Contract to start as soon as possible for 6 months. ***Ref: 37978***

COMPANY COMMERCIAL
City firm requires 2/3 solicitors to join their busy and expanding corporate department. Candidates must have at least 1 years' experience for a 6 month contract. Excellent opportunities for the right candidate. ***Ref: 36230***

CONSTRUCTION/PROPERTY
City firm requires solicitor with 5 years' plus pqe in both non-contentious construction and commercial property matters. Contract to start immediately and candidates must have had experience within a similar City firm environment. ***Ref: 37255***

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
Recently established London law firm urgently need a solicitor, with 2 years' pqe and upwards, to join their expanding practice. Opportunity to gain excellent "hands on" experience within small commercial environment. ***Ref: 38048***

EMPLOYMENT
Progressive northern practice seeks solicitor to cover a maternity leave from April to July. Candidates must have at least 2 years' contentious employment experience. ***Ref: 38015***

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
Solicitor/barrister with at least 2 years' experience needed for major computer company based in Home Counties. Strong non-contentious IP experience, including passing-off, is essential. Contract to start immediately and could be part-time. ***Ref: 37585***

DEFENDANT PERSONAL INJURY
Progressive firm with strong european connections seeks solicitor with 4 years' defendant experience to cover for solicitor going on secondment. Contract is for 3 months to start mid March. ***Ref: 36243***

SPL SPECIAL PROJECT LAWYER

For further information please call Emma Hopkins or Nicky Rutherford-Jones on 0171-405 6062 (0181-540 2381 or 0171-350 0682 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Special Project Lawyer, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394.

SPL is a QD Company

LONDON OPPORTUNITIES

LITIGATION - US FIRM — **£EXCELLENT**
Relatively few of the US firms with London offices have decided to develop litigation as a lead specialisation. Our Client, one of the top US practices, is different and has chosen to capitalise on its excellent New York reputation in this area. Candidates at partner level have already been recruited and the firm is now keen to hear from ambitious litigators with a minimum of 3 years' experience. The remuneration packages offered are exceptional and genuine promotion prospects exist. (Ref.9234)

MEDIA LAWYER - SENIOR — **£65-90,000**
Multi-discipline media group at leading City firm is keen to hear from ambitious junior partners or senior assistants at peer practices. Individuals must want to play a key role in practice development and have a track record in broadcast/TV work. Drive, charisma and a genuine interest in this area are essential. Multi-media has been identified by the firm as a key area for further investment. (Ref.1583)

CORPORATE — **TO £80,000**
Contrary to what you may believe, corporate departments differ widely in London. Our client is a top tier firm with an enviable reputation for offering assistants a "generalist" approach and top quality mix of work. Direct client contact is actively encouraged and there is a strong "team" atmosphere across the department. Ideal opportunity for lawyers (with between 2 and 7 years' experience) who thrive in a down to earth, yet high calibre environment. (Ref.2921)

IMMIGRATION — **TO £45,000**
Excellent opportunity for immigration specialist with around 3 years' post qualification experience to move to arguably the leading practice in this area. The firm has the solid blue-chip client base commensurate with a "Top Ten" firm of its calibre. Excellent team-support, competitive remuneration and genuine career development potential are on offer. (Ref.9252)

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION — **TO £45,000**
After a number of months with little movement in the litigation market a number of "magic circle" practices have recently decided to invest in the area and recruit able lawyers with good commercial litigation skills wishing, perhaps, to "upgrade" their experience. Advocacy opportunities exist and a genuine interest in the area is taken as read. (Ref.9213)

CENTRAL LONDON - IN-HOUSE — **£TOP CITY**
Our client is a multi national company with well recognised brands and an exceptionally strong presence in Europe. They have a City based headquarters with a small high profile legal department. They wish to recruit a solicitor with 1-3 years' experience of general commercial work preferably including intellectual property and/or competition law. A City training will be preferred. French or German linguistic skills would also be helpful. (Ref.9154)

BANKING — **£EXCEPTIONAL**
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Fresh start in Formula One provides opportunity for young Dane to get back on track

Magnussen driven by power of recovery

Oliver Holt on the rich potential offered an outlet with the launch of Stewart Grand Prix

Last week, hidden in the midst of a long directory of files, I came across the forgotten beginnings of an article I never wrote, a computer's equivalent of a yellowed scrap of crumpled paper. It was to have been a profile of Jan Magnussen, a study of a man who, two years ago, seemed set to emerge as one of the greatest driving talents of his generation. It never got beyond the thin line of quotes that stared out from the screen.

"Jan is an incredible natural talent," Jackie Stewart, three times a world champion, had said. "One of the best I have ever seen. But he chose to leave single-seaters and go to the German Touring Car (DTM) series and I think it could be his Waterloo. He is not doing particularly well in that championship and I have seen great potential dissipate. This is a very fragile sport."

That was in 1995, the season after Magnussen had burst into the motor racing consciousness by dominating the British Formula Three championship so completely that he won 14 out of its 18 races, one more than the number of victories managed by Ayrton Senna in the same series more than a decade earlier.

There were no dissenters back then. Everyone thought the young Dane was the next grand prix superstar, the next Senna. Ron Dennis, the McLaren managing director, snapped him up on a Formula One testing contract and his engine partner, Mercedes, signed him to be part of its team in the thriving DTM championship.

Then things started to go wrong. Magnussen was not as comfortable in the heavier touring cars as he had been in single-seaters and, just when he was starting to adapt, a careless driver knocked him off his scooter when he was travelling back to his hotel during a race weekend in Nuremberg. He broke a leg.

At the same time, McLaren were struggling in vain to recapture their pre-eminence in Formula One and Magnussen's testing time was restricted. He made his grand prix debut at the Pacific Grand Prix in October 1995 in place of Mika Hakkinen, who was recovering from an appendix operation. He finished tenth. Then he was thrust back into the obscurity of the DTM.

He performed creditably enough last year without taking the series by storm but, by then, he was also having to deny suggestions that he was not disciplined enough to make it to the very top, that he did not train hard enough, that his smoking habit was somehow indicative of a wider lack of commitment.

It seemed for a few months that he might attempt to resurrect his career this year in the IndyCar series but then Stewart and his son, Paul, who had masterminded Magnussen's heroics in Formula Three, offered him the chance to lead the new Stewart Grand Prix team in its first season in Formula One, just as if his Waterloo was a phantom battle. It is a golden opportunity, a high-profile start with the most ambitious, best-prepared and best-funded new team to enter Formula One for many a year.

Beginning in Melbourne this week with the Australian Grand Prix, the progress of the Stewart-Ford will be closely scrutinised throughout the year. At last, Magnussen has the chance to reclaim the destiny that others mapped out for him long ago.

He is so keen to succeed that he has made changes that he did not feel he had to make. He has taken gentle hints from the Stewarts and stopped smoking. A shy, vulnerable man with a great sense of fun, popular with other drivers and mechanics alike, he has also learnt that, in the cloistered and intensely serious world of Formula One, it does not pay to try to be different.

"I read all these profiles of drivers," Magnussen said, "and they all say their favourite drink is water, their favourite food is pasta and that their hobby is training. So I said I liked Coca-Cola, Big Macs and bowling. I didn't think anyone would take it that seriously, but unfortunately they did.

"I don't really feel any different now that I have stopped smoking but the media made such a big thing out of it that it was more trouble than it was worth. I have heard the stories about me not being disciplined enough, but I have made an extra effort over the winter and I am fitter than I ever have been. There are other things I cannot do any more but I am not going to turn into a robot just to fit in with everyone else."

Despite his travails, Magnussen is still only 23, still an uncut diamond with a close-knit circle of childhood friends who often travel with him to races. Alongside the other Formula One new boys — Giancarlo Fisichella, at Jordan, and Jarno Trulli, at Minardi — he represents the kernel of an exciting future for the sport.

In Denmark, they are talking again about how he might be a future world champion after all. He is on a four-year contract at Stewart, reunited with the men who guided him through the most successful phase of his career and who know how to bring the best out of him.

"Because Jackie was a driver himself," Magnussen said, "he knows a little bit how I think. He is good at talking to a driver and understanding what he says and explaining things to you without doing it in a negative way. It is all very positive and that seems to bring out the best in me.

"The Danish papers are saying I have a chance to be world champion now but I know I cannot do it unless I have the right package. Stewart Grand Prix are as ambitious as me, though, and I believe they will be strong enough to win the championship one day. I hope I will be there to win it for them."



Magnussen, left, is benefiting from the positive approach that made Jackie Stewart a world champion

ICE HOCKEY

Panthers start in fine style

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

CARDIFF Devils and Nottingham Panthers enjoyed a perfect opening weekend to their Superleague play-off campaign with two wins.

In play-off ice hockey, which features tighter checking and more emphasis on defence, the goaltender becomes even more important than usual, and the Panthers were indebted to Trevor Robins on Saturday for his first-period performance in the away game at Basingstoke. Once Nottingham had scored from their first four shots of the second period, there was only one team in it.

On Sunday, Rob Stewart gave Bracknell Bees an early lead, but the Panthers were level by the end of the first period, led 4-1 early in the third and withstood a late Bracknell rally to emerge 5-3 winners.

The Devils have been given a demanding schedule and got back to Cardiff at 4am on Sunday after their 5-2 win away to Newcastle Cobras. It did not seem to affect them, though, and they were convincing 6-2 winners over Ayr Scottish Eagles.

Goals by Doug McCarthy and Ian Cooper in the space of 37 seconds set the tone for the evening and, although Jamie Steer pulled one back for the Eagles shortly afterwards, it was 6-1 with 3½ minutes to go before Steer scored his second to give Ayr a late consolation marker.

Bracknell gave Sheffield Steelers a scare on Saturday when they led 2-1 late in the second period, but goals by Glenn Mulvenna and Hand in the third period gave the Steelers their expected win, but they made hard work of it.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

OHTSU, Japan: Marathon. 1, M Paz (Sp) 2hr 8mn 5sec; 2, T Turro (Eth) 2 09 00; 3, J Pinheiro (Por) 2:09 11

LOS ANGELES: Marathon: Winners: Men: El-Maaty Graham (Mor) 2hr 14min 16sec. Women: L Kiplagat (Ken) 2 33 50

KENDAL, Cumbria: Benson Knott fell race (5M, 900ft): Men: 1, B Burns (Preston) 30min 48sec (record); 2, A Bowness (Cumberland Fell Runners) 31 12; 3, C Roberts (Pendal) 31 16. Women: 1, B Carter (Pendal) 40:30; 2, L Osborn (Keswick) 40 41; 3, S Parker (Pendal) 41 24

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 101 LA Lakers 85; Utah 93 Vancouver 86; Miami 79 San Antonio 72; Charlotte 108 Minnesota 96; Seattle 109 Orlando 101; Detroit 82 Atlanta 75; New York 90 Cleveland 82; Phoenix 109 Dallas 108 (OT); Denver 109 LA Clippers 107 (OT); Portland 112 Philadelphia 95

7-UP TROPHY: Final: Chester 59 London Towers 67 (at NEC, Birmingham)

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Newcastle 94 Crystal Palace 79

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham	28	21	7	2510	2318	42
Leopards	27	20	7	2523	2385	40
Sheffield	26	20	6	2317	2031	40
Chester	28	19	9	2424	2278	38
London	24	19	5	2070	1882	38
Newcastle	29	16	13	2550	2512	32
Manchester	29	16	13	2292	2172	32
Leicester	26	12	14	2268	2217	24
Derby	29	11	18	2524	2586	22
Worthing	27	8	19	2238	2440	16
Thames Valley	26	8	18	2366	2413	16
Crystal Palace	28	5	23	2129	2391	10
Hemel and W	27	2	25	2257	2843	4

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Mid Sussex 109 Liverpool 92; Plymouth 90 Nottingham 96; Stockton 98 Coventry 108; Westminster 98 Ware 92. Second division: Derby 72 Northampton 95, South Bank 77 Flintshire 57. Women: Second division: Doncaster 51 Oxford 49

BILLIARDS

NORWICH: Strachan United Kingdom championship: Final: M Russell (Eng) bt S Multani (India) 2,476-580

BOWLS

YORK: English Women's Indoor Bowls Association national championships: Pairs: First round: S Matthews and D Miller (March) bt F Hewett and S Jennings (Dorchester) 19-11; J Smith and A Harrison (Folkestone) bt H Cattran and M Williams (West Cornwall) 27-9; H Clarke and R George (King Alfred) bt J Mason and N Shaw (Thornaby) 21-18; S Rickman and M Stopher (King George Field) bt P Ketchen and B Lines (Paddington) 23-11; B Watford and K Strutt (Egham) bt M Manning and A Jacobs (North Wilts) 27-7; P Barrett and C Pollington (Diss) bt E Devonald-Batt and M Hopper (Desborough Maidenhead) 32-19; L Tunn and B Brown (Colchester) bt E Neale and Instone (York) 22-19; S Mart and J Thomas (Nottingham) bt W Anderson and D Woodley (Swandon Westacott) 17-14. Quarter-finals: Smith and Harrison bt Matthews and Miller 21-18; Rickman and Stopher bt Clarke and George 23-18; Whatford and Strutt bt Barrett and Pollington 22-16; Mart and Thomas bt Tunn and Brown 19-16. Two-wood triples: Quarter-finals: Concordia bt Bentham 21-13, Lincoln bt Rushden 21-15, Preston, Brighton bt Cambridge Park 16-15; York bt Longmeadow 16-8

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Gisborne: Sri Lankans v New Zealand A. Match abandoned due to rain

TOUR MATCH: Kingston (third day of four): Jamaica 453-9 dec (L R Williams 102 not out, T O Powell 76), Indians 217-5 (V V S Laxman 98, R S Dravid 86)

RED STRIPE CUP (final day of four): Georgetown: Barbados 240 and 211-5 dec (P A Wallace 69, S L Campbell 58 not out, N F McGarrell 4-68); Guyana 164 and 263-7 (C L Hooper 101, N A DeGroot 51, C B Lambert 45). Match drawn. Roseau, Dominica: Windward Islands 199 and 214; Trinidad and Tobago 370-9 dec and 44-0. Trinidad and Tobago beat Windward Islands by ten wickets

FREESTYLE SKIING

MEIRINGEN-HASLIBERG, Switzerland: World Cup events: Dual moguls: Men: 1, F Ougier (Fr); 2, J Jonell (Swe); 3, S Karpetchenko (Russ). Women: 1, K Traa (Nor), 2, M Karhu (Fin), 3, M Elfman (Swe). Acro-ski: Men: 1, I Edmondsson (US) 26.75pts, 2, F Becker (Fr) 26.45; 3, A Inberg (Fin) 25.90. Women: 1, E Batalova (Russ) 26.25, 2, O Kouchenko (Russ) 25.70; 3, N Razoumovska (Russ) 25.60.

FOOTBALL

Sunday's late results

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Udinese 2 Napoli 2

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Betis 2 Hercules 1; Real Oviedo 2 Celta Vigo 1; Real Zaragoza 1 Real Valladolid 0; Compostela 2 Sporting Gijón 1; Racing Santander 2 Extremadura 3; Real Sociedad 0 Athletic Bilbao 0

GERMAN LEAGUE: Arminia Bielefeld 3 VfL Bochum 1; Schalke 04 0 St Pauli 0;

DUTCH LEAGUE: PSV Eindhoven 4 RKC Waalwijk 1

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Salgueiros 0 Vitória Guimarães 0; Leina 1 Sporting Braga 2, Farense 0 Belenenses 2, Espinho 1 Rio Ave 2, Boavista 3 CS Maritimo 1; Vitoria Setubal 1 Gil Vicente 0.

FRENCH CUP: Third round: Lille 0 Montpellier 3

WORLD CUP: Concacaf zone: Final group: Jamaica 0 United States 0 (at Kingston), Mexico 4 Canada 0 (at Mexico City)

LIBERTADORES CUP: First round: Group two: Nacional (Ecu) 2 Racing Club (Arg) 0; Emelec (Ecu) 2 Velez Sarsfield (Arg) 3

ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: Colon 1 Boca Juniors 0; Estudiantes 1 Platense 2, Ferro Carril Oeste 0 Gimnasia-La Plata 0; Gimnasia-Jujuy 1 Rosario Central 1; Huracan-Corrientes 1 Banfield 1, Newell's Old Boys 2 Independiente 1; Racing Club 2 Velez Sarsfield 0; River Plate 4 Union 0; San Lorenzo 5 Huracan 1.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: São Paulo championship: America 0 São José 2, Aracatuba 2 Portuguesa-Santista 0; Guarani 1 Botafogo-Ribeirao Preto 0; Internacional Limeira 2 Rio Branco 1; Juventus 3 Portuguesa 3; Mogi Mirim 1 São Paulo 1; Palmeiras 2 Santos 0; Uniao São Joao 0 Corinthians 1; Rio de Janeiro championship: America 1 Americano 1; Barreira 0 Flamengo 5; Botafogo 4 Itaperuna 2; Madureira 2 Volta Redonda 0, Vasco da Gama 1 Fluminense 0

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Fourth-round draw: Morecambe or Dagenham and Redbridge v Ashton United, Heybridge Swifts v Woking, Bishop Auckland v Gloucester City, Stevenage Borough v Colwyn Bay or St Leonards Stamcroft.

☐ Ties to be played March 22.

GOLF

PACIFIC PALISADES, California: Nissan Open: Leading final scores (United States unless stated): 272: N Faldo (GB) 66, 70, 68, 68. 275: C Stadler 71, 66, 68, 70. 278: S Hoch 65, 71, 71, 69. 277: F Funk 67, 71, 71, 68, T Purtzer 67, 71, 69, 70. 278: O Uresti 70, 71, 69, 68; R Freeman 69, 71, 68, 70; S McCarron 68, 73, 64, 73. 279: D Ogrin 68, 71, 72, 68; P Jacobsen 68, 75, 65, 68; T Tryba 70, 68, 74, 69; P Goydos 68, 74, 70, 69; J Ozaki (Japan) 73, 69, 68, 69; P Stewart 65, 72, 72, 70; F Couples 68, 70, 70, 71; M O'Meara 67, 69, 72, 71. 280: J Maggert 69, 71, 72, 68; F Nobilo (NZ) 71, 70, 70, 69; S Pate 71, 72, 67, 70. 281: E Dougherty 69, 75, 69, 68; T Woods 70, 70, 72, 69; L Nelson 71, 72, 69, 69; B Gieberger 74, 69, 68, 70; W Wood 71, 68, 72, 70; D Pooley 67, 68, 75, 71; R Tway 73 71 66 71

HOCKEY

PORTHMADOG: Celtic Under-21 men's tournament: Scotland 2 France 7; Wales 1 Ireland 8. Final positions: 1, France 9pts; 2, Ireland 6; 3, Scotland 3

AEWHA PLATE: Third round: Basingstoke 0 Harrow 1; Bath 2 Henley 1, Broxbourne 0 Aldershot and Farnham 0; Camberley 5 Long Buckby 0, Cambridge City 0 Poynton 1; Chiswick 3 City of Portsmouth 4; Crosby 2 Chiltern 2 (aet; Chiltern win 3-2 on pens), Driffield 1 Cambridge University 0; Eastbourne 1 St Ives (Cambridge) 1; Loomin ster w/o Hampstead and Westminster; Morpeth 1 Deeside Ramblers 1; Paviors 0 Yate and South Glouco 2; Reading 4 Winnington Park 0; St Austell 1 Sevenoaks 2; Springfield w/o Isca (Devon); St Neots 1 York 3.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Philadelphia 5 Hartford 2; NY Islanders 2 Washington 0; Detroit 1 Anaheim 1 (OT); Chicago 4 Phoenix 0

SUPERLEAGUE: Play-offs: Group A: Cardiff 6 Ayr 2. Group B: Nottingham 5 Bracknell 3.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Medway 3 Kingston 8; Peterborough 6 Telford 2; Slough 6 Swindon 2; Solihull 8 Guildford 4

MOTOR RACING

HOMESTEAD, Florida: CART championship: Grand Prix of Miami: 1, M Andretti (US, Swift-Ford); 2, P Tracey (Can, Penske-Mercedes); 3, J Unser (US, Reynard-Honda); 4, G Moore (Can, Reynard-Mercedes); 5, S Pruett (US, Reynard-Ford), 6, A Zanardi (It, Reynard-Honda)

MOTOR RALLYING

NAIROBI, Kenya: Safari rally: Leading final positions: 1, C McRae (GB, Subaru) 11hr 29min 0sec; 2, R Burns (GB, Mitsubishi) 11:36:04, 3, I Duncan (Ken, Toyota) 11:40:18; 4, A Schwarz (Ger, Ford) 13:07:22; 5, J Tordoff (Ken, Toyota) 13 49:32. World championship positions: Drivers': 1, McRae 13pts; 2, C Sainz (Sp, Ford) 12, equal 3, P Liatti (It, Subaru) and K Eriksson (Swe, Subaru) 10; 5, T Makinen (Fin, Mitsubishi) 8. Manufacturers': 1 Subaru 33; 2, Ford 19; 3, Mitsubishi 16.

NETBALL

BUSA CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-finals: Cardiff Institute 30 Loughborough 42, Northumbria 34 Birmingham 70

☐ Final to be played March 9

NORDIC SKIING

TRONDHEIM: World championships: Men: 4 x 10km cross country relay: 1, Norway 1hr 37min 06 1sec; 2, Finland 1:39:17 3; 3, Italy 1:39:56 9; 4, Russia 1:39:57 1; 5, Sweden 1:40:43 1. 50km cross country: 1, M Myllyla (Fin) 2hr 16mins 37min 5sec; 2, E Jevne (Nor) 2hr 17 32.4; 3, B Daehlie (Nor) 2.18 36 0. 4, A Prokurorov (Russ) 2:19:50 1; 5, S Sivertsen (Nor) 2:20:31.4. Ski-jumping: 1, M Harada (Japan) 252.1pts; 2, D Thorna (Ger) 244 9, 3, S Freihofz (Switz) 237.3; 4, A-P Nikkola (Fin) 235.5, 5, N Dessum (Fr) 234 5. Women: 30km cross country: 1, E Valbe (Russ) 1hr 23min 04 9sec; 2, S Belmondo (It) at 28.3sec; 3, M Makkelsplass (Nor) 1min 50 8sec; 4, L Lazutina (Russ) 1.51 2; 5, A Moen Guidon (Nor) 1:52.8

ORIENTEERING

SWANSEA: National series: First event: Men (13 9km): 1, D Godfree (Edinburgh University) 83min 28sec; 2, C Hallett (Bristol) 85:25, 3, D Jenkins (Huddersfield) 88:45. Women (8km): 1, J James (South Yorkshire) 67min 51sec; 2, K Buckley (Derwent Valley) 72:03, 3, L Camble (Eryri) 73.18

REAL TENNIS

MANCHESTER: University match: Oxford 5 Cambridge 1 (Oxford names first: Singles: J Willcocks bt N Baker 6-2, 6-2, A Roberts-Miller bt M Bailey 6-5, 6-2; R Walker lost to M Dawson 4-6, 6-5, 2-6, R Carter bt A Whiteley 6-1, 4-6, 6-5. Doubles: Willcocks and Carter bt Baker and Whiteley 6-5, 5-6, 6-5, 4-6, 6-2, Roberts-Miller and Walker bt Bailey and Dawson 6-5, 6-5, 6-3)

MORETON MORRELL: British women's national masters championship: Quarter-finals: S Jones bt V Dawes 6-0, 6-0; P Danby bt A Seymour Mead 6-5, 6-4; A Balcerkiewicz bt S Macintosh 6-0, 6-2; F Syson bt M Pignon 6-5, 6-3. Semi-finals: Jones bt Danby 6-1, 6-1; Balcerkiewicz bt Syson 6-5, 5-6, 6-3. Final: Jones bt Balcerkiewicz 6-2, 6-1

ROWING

READING HEAD OF THE RIVER: 1, Isis A (Oxford Univ) 12min 38sec (open winners); 2, Oxford Brookes Univ 12.52, 3, Molesey 12.57. Other division winners: Men: Senior one: Isis B 13min 08sec. Senior two: Oxford University Lightweights 13min 28sec. Senior three: St Edward's Sch 13min 39sec. Novice: Imperial College 13mn 59sec. Veteran: Upper Thames/Wallingford/City of Oxford 14mn 22sec. Junior: Radley 13min 27sec. Junior (Under-16): Radley 14min 15sec. Women: Open: Reading 15min 12sec. Senior one: Marlow 15min 11sec. Senior three: Bristol University 15min 06sec

RUGBY LEAGUE

CLUB MATCH: Wigan 54 Castleford 14

AUSTRALIAN SUPER LEAGUE: Cronulla Sharks 28 Canberra Raiders 4.

RUGBY UNION

OFFICIAL CORRECTION: Courage Clubs Championship: Fourth division north: Lichfield 16 Worcester 32 (not as previously published).

ENGLAND COLTS (v Scotland under-19, Belgray, March 8): R Hartley (Newcastle); B Cohen (Northampton), S Brocklehurst (Loughborough University), J Pritchard (Bath), L Lloyd (Leicester), J Brown (Coventry), P Richards (London Irish), S Tretheway (Devonport Services), A Long (Bath), E Webb (Loughborough University), P Buxton (Cheltenham), J Winterbottom (Wasps), T Butler (Leicester), L Moody (Leicester), P Ogilvie (Saracens)

SAILING

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE. Fourth leg: Sydney to Cape Town (positions at 13:00GMT yesterday, with times to Cape Town): 1, Group 4 5 983; 2, Toshiba Wave Warrior 5,891; 3, Courageous IV 5,896; 4, Save the Children 5 896; 5, Motorola 5 896; 6, Heath Insured II 5,396; 7, Pause to Remember 5,900; 8, Concert 5 904; 9, 3Com 5,905; 10, Nuclear Electric 5 909; 11, Time & Tide 5,911; 12, Commercial Union 5,912; 13, Ocean Rover 5,926; 14, Global Teamwork 5,933

CLIPPER 96 RACE: Third leg: Honolulu to Yokohama. Results: 1, Anel (arrived Feb 28 4.26am); 2, Merrimerus (6.30am); 3, Taepong (1.37pm); 4, Chrysoke (3.22pm); 5, Thermopylae (6.32pm); 6, Sensa (6.57pm); 7, Antrope (Mar 1 1.08pm); 8, Bracelander (Mar 2, 10.32am). Leading overall positions: 1, Anel 9pts; 2, Merrimerus 20; 3, Taepong 20; 4, Chrysoke 22

SNOOKER

VALLETTA, Malta: European Open: Final: J Higgins (Scot) bt J Parrott (Eng) 9-5. Frame scores: 74-6, 74-6, 10-71, 71-21, 62-41, 64-48, 48-56, 72-0, 141-1, 76-22, 1-71, 81-57, 71-52, 66-61

SWIMMING

STOCKPORT: British club team championships: Winners: Men: 50m freestyle: M Foster (Bath Univ) 22.39sec; 100m freestyle: P Palmer (Bath Univ) 50.22sec; 200m freestyle: G Meadows (Leeds) 1min 49.69sec; 400m freestyle: P Palmer (Bath Univ) 3min 49.87sec; 1,500m freestyle: Palmer 15min 10.95sec; 100m breaststroke: G Brettell (Salford) 1min 03.43sec; 200m breaststroke: A Turner (Salford) 2min 14.65sec; 100m backstroke: T Riley (Salford) 57.89sec; 200m backstroke: J Hickman (Stockport Metro) 2min 00.34sec; 100m butterfly: Hickman 53.97sec; 200m butterfly: A Clayton (Leeds) 1min 59.55sec; 200m medley: Clayton 2min 02.44sec; 400m medley: Hickman 4min 13.35sec; 4 x 100m freestyle relay: Bath University 3min 24.98sec; 4 x 100m medley relay: Bath University 3min 49.41sec; 4 x 200m freestyle relay: Leeds 7min 26.83sec. Top team: Leeds 13,041pts

WOMEN. 50m freestyle: S Rolph (Newcastle) 25.53sec; 100m freestyle: C Hudson (Leeds) 56.31sec; 200m freestyle: Hudson 2min 00.26sec; 400m freestyle: V Hopper (Stockport Metro) 4min 14.67sec; 800m freestyle: A Pedder (Portsmouth Northsea) 8min 47.01sec; 100m breaststroke: S Brownsdon (Coventry) 1min 11.70sec; 200m breaststroke: L Handmarsh (Leeds) 2min 33.62sec; 100m backstroke: K Sexton (Portsmouth Northsea) 1min 02.93sec (British junior record); 200m backstroke: J Deakins (Coventry) 2min 14.19sec; 100m butterfly: Ralph 1min 01.24sec; 200m butterfly: Pedder 2min 12.23sec; 200m medley: Ralph 2min 17.55sec; 400m medley: R Corner (Wigan Wasps) 4min 50.39sec; 4 x 100m freestyle relay: Leeds 3min 51.89sec; 4 x 200m freestyle relay: Leeds 8min 21.41sec; 4 x 100m medley relay: Portsmouth Northsea 4min 16.45sec (British club record). Top team: Portsmouth Northsea 12,988pts. Overall top team: 1, Leeds 25,767pts; 2, Portsmouth Northsea 25,372; 3, Stockport Metro 24,3??

TENNIS

FEDERATION CUP: World group one: Belgium 5 Spain 0

PHILADELPHIA: Men's tournament: Final: P Sampras (US) bt P Rafter (Aus) 5-7, 7-6, 6-3

VOLLEYBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Polonia Ealing 1 Maloy Lewisham 2 (16-14, 14-16, 6-15, 7-15); Sportex Whitefield 3 Reebok Liverpool City 0 (15-9, 15-13, 15-5); Warwick Riga 1 Leeds 3 (6-15, 8-15, 15-12, 9-15); Tooting Aquila 3 Croydon Sportswarehouse 2 (11-15, 15-5, 15-7, 11-15, 15-13); City of Stoke 3 Wessex 1 (15-10, 15-5, 12-15, 15-7)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Uefa Cup

Quarter-finals, first leg

Newcastle v AS Monaco (8.0)
Anderlecht v Internazionale
Tenerife v Brondby (9.30)
Schalke 04 v Valencia (7.45)

FA Carling Premiership

Sunderland v Tottenham (7.45)

Nationwide League

First division

Barnsley v Swindon (7.45)
Birmingham v Wolverhampton (7.45)
Charlton v QPR (7.45)
Crystal Palace v Bolton (7.45)
Huddersfield v Oxford Utd (7.45)
Ipswich v Bradford (7.45)
Oldham v Tranmere (7.45)
Reading v Norwich (7.45)
Sheffield Utd v Port Vale (7.45)

Second division

Brentford v Wycombe (7.45)
Bury v Shrewsbury (7.45)
Chesterfield v Luton (7.45)
Peterborough v Watford (7.45)
Walsall v Bristol City (7.45)

Third division

Brighton v Northampton (7.45)
Carlisle v Torquay (7.45)
Exeter v Barnet (7.45)
Wigan v Hartlepool (7.45)

Auto Windscreens Shield

Northern section

Semi-final

Crewe v Stockport

Vauxhall Conference

Halifax v Hednesford (7.45)
Slaybridge v Gateshead (7.45)
Woking v Hayes (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League

First division

Greenock Morton v Falkirk

Second division

Brechin v Hamilton
Clyde v Dumbarton
Stenhousemuir v Stranraer

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: League of Wales v FAI League (at Ladkwith Stadium, Cardiff)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dorchester v Merthyr (7.45); Gresley v Burton Albion; Hastings v King's Lynn; Nuneaton v Chelmsford. Postponed: Sudbury Tn v Baldock. Midland division: Hinckley Town v Evesham; RC Warwick v Raunds T; Shepshed D v Moor Green; Tamworth v Ilkeston. Southern division: Cirencester Town v Fisher London; Erith and Belvedere v Newport (IoW); Witney v Yate Tn. League Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Sudbury Tn v Weymouth

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Chorley v Leek, Gainsborough v Boston; Lancaster v Bamber Bridge. First division: Leigh v Harrogate Town. League Cup: Fourth-round replay: Radcliffe v Accrington Stanley. President's Cup: Second round: Runcorn v Barrow. Second-round replay: Workington v Blyth Spartans (7.45).

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford v Harrow Borough; Kingstonian v Heybridge v Chertsey; Hitchin v Oxford City (7.45); Yeovil v Dulwich (7.45). First division: Abingdon Town v Molesey; Billericay v Wokingham; Hampton v Tooting and Mitcham; Marlow v Aldershot Town. Second division: Dorking v Leatherhead; Egham v Ware; Leighton Town v Wivenhoe; Metropolitan Police v Collier Row and Romford; Windsor and Eton v Chesham; Witham v Barking

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Wimbledon v West Ham (at Plough Lane, 2.0)

PONTIN'S CENTRAL LEAGUE: Second division: Manchester City v Mansfield (at Widon Albion FC, 7.0), Rotherham v Hull (7.0), Wrexham v Grimsby (7.0). Third division: Postponed: Chesterfield v Rochdale.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: First division: Omagh v Lame.

IRISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA FLOODLIT CUP: Semi-finals: Glenavon v Crusaders (at The Oval), Glentoran v Portadown (at Windsor Park, Belfast).

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Chatham v Lordswood; Deal v Herne Bay; Faversham v Corinthian; Folkestone Invicta v Slade Green, Ramsgate v Cray; Whitstable Town v Hythe

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Paulton R v Bideford

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Waltham Abbey v Hanwgey

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'Brien Mckenzie Butchers premier division Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Harpenden v Toddington

ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bilston Community College v Handrahan Timbers, Bolehall S v Southam.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers v Clitheroe; Chadderton v Darwen; Mossley v Penrith, Newcastle Town v Nantwich Town.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham Ramblers v Concord Rangers; Great Wakering v Brentwood; Southend Manor v Bowers, Stansted v Basildon U

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Clacton v Felixstowe P and T; Sudbury v Halstead; Tiptree v Harwich and Parkeston.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Bemerton Heath v Brockenhurst. League Cup: Quarter-final, second leg: Ryde Sports v Eastleigh.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Pickering v North Ferriby; Thackley v Sheffield President's Cup: Final, first leg: Belper Town v Hucknall Town

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Centenary shield under-18 international match: Holland v England (at Zwolle, 7.0). FA Premier League under-18 Trophy: Devon v Bedfordshire (at Crediton United, 7.0)

RUGBY UNION

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Gloucester v Northampton (7.30)
Leicester v Sale (7.45)
Saracens v Orrell (7.30)

Club match

Oxford University v Oxfordshire (7.15)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's English national indoor championship (at York)

BOXING: Super-middleweight bout: Herol Graham (Sheffield) v Craig Joseph (Bradford) (at Elephant and Castle Leisure Centre)

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In the 1996-97 Premier League, after 336 boards Gus Calderwood's team won by 12 IMPs from John Armstrong's team, for which Brian Senior and I play. If we had made a game on the North-South cards on this deal, it would have reversed the placings.

Dealer East — **Game all** — **IMPs**

	♠Q 10 9 6 3 2 ♥A 8 7 ♦A Q ♣J 2	
♠A K J 5 ♥6 4 ♦10 4 ♣7 6 5 4 3	N W E S	♠8 ♥K Q J 10 9 5 2 ♦7 6 3 ♣Q 8
	♠7 4 ♥3 ♦K J 9 8 5 2 ♣A K 10 9	

W	N	E	S
—	—	3 H	Pass
Pass	3 S	Pass	4 D
Pass	5 D	All Pass	

Contract: Five Diamonds by South. Lead: king of spades

Four Spades is a better contract than Five Diamonds. We would have got there if I had bid Four Hearts (a so-called "choice of game" cue-bid) over Four Diamonds, allowing Senior (South) to show his spade tolerance.

After the king of spades, West switched to the six of hearts. Senior won in dummy and led the jack of clubs. East (Andrew Macintosh) was on the ball here — he did not cover. Had he done so, the rest would have been easy.

When East played low, Senior won with the king of clubs. With no clear continuation, Senior decided to play another spade; West went in with the ace allowing East to discard the queen of clubs, and now West gave East a club ruff to take the contract one off. It was a missed opportunity — North-South climbed to Six Diamonds at the other table, and lost the first two tricks.

☐ The Ranked Pairs were played in Coventry at the weekend.

WINNERS: Grand masters: J Dhondy and I Pagan (Middlesex). Premier Life masters: R Pike and M Perkins (Yorkshire/Berkshire and Buckinghamshire). Life masters: M Jones and D Davies (Warwickshire/Leicestershire). National masters: P Derby and S Dannell (Norfolk). Regional masters: M Fitzhyan and D Hinkin (Hampshire). Masters: D Wright and N Bisson (Hertfordshire).

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Cambridge wins

Cambridge University scored a decisive win by 5½ points to 2½ in their annual match against Oxford at the RAC in Pall Mall, London, over the weekend. Cambridge now lead in the series by 50 wins to 48. Wins for Cambridge were achieved by Mark Ferguson (Queens'), Jonathan Cohen (Queens'), David Cristinacce (St Catharine's), Daniel Rosenberg (St John's) and Louisa Orton (Christ's). The following table tells the full story:

Oxford		Cambridge
D Kumaran	drew with	J Parker
J Rowson	beat	M Turner
J Ovaknine	lost to	M Ferguson
A Lewis	lost to	J Cohen
M Davereux	beat	D Haussabis
B Savage	lost to	D Cristinacce
C Blake	lost to	D Rosenberg
S Little	lost to	L Orton
Oxford 2½		Cambridge 5½

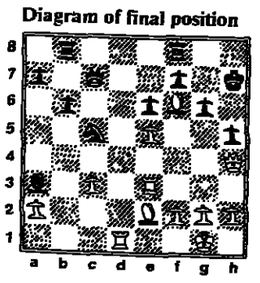
White: Jonathan Cohen
Black: Alex Lewis

Oxford University v Cambridge University 1997

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	c3	Nf6
3	e5	Nd5
4	d4	cxd4
5	cxd4	e6
6	Nf3	b6
7	Nc3	Nxc3
8	bxc3	Qc7
9	Bd2	Be7
10	Bd3	Bb7
11	0-0	d6
12	Bf4	Nd7
13	Re1	Rc8
14	Rc1	Bxf3
15	Qxf3	dxe5
16	dxe5	g6
17	Qg3	Ba3
18	Rcd1	0-0
19	Bh6	Rfd8
20	Bg5	Rf8
21	Ba6	Rb8
22	Bb5	Nc5
23	Bf6	h6
24	Qh4	Kh7
25	Re3	h5
26	Be2	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276) at £6.99 plus postage and packing.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

AFANC
a. Mad
b. Without teeth
c. An aquatic monster

FU-FU
a.

RACING: JOCKEY CLUB PREPARES GROUNDWORK FOR MORE CONSISTENT GOING AT COURSES

Tighter controls on turf management

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

A LONG overdue crackdown on turf management and the official going at Britain's 59 racecourses is to be launched by the Jockey Club in September. The move follows growing criticism in recent months from trainers, owners and the media — notably *The Times* — about the state of the ground at several tracks, including Cheltenham, the home of National Hunt racing.

A Jockey Club instruction will contain several mandatory requirements, ranging from minimum irrigation needs to necessary qualifications for groundsmen, as well as other key guidelines on preparing decent racing ground.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ASHGROVE DANCER
(2.30 Kelso)

Next best: Eastern River
(2.50 Leicester)

Tony Goodhew, the Jockey Club's director of racecourse services, said yesterday: "The objective of the new instruction will be to produce consistent ground on which sound horses can give their best performance — which will help maximise field sizes and minimise injuries.

"We want racecourses to apply the principles of good turf management across the board, although we accept that conditions at every racecourse will differ. The aim is to set down mandatory and guidance requirements in relation to best practice."

In future, the Jockey Club will insist on racecourses getting a turf consultants' report every year as a condition of their racecourse licence. The turf consultant will come from a Jockey Club approved list and racing's regulators will discuss the findings with tracks in an attempt to make improvements.

All Jockey Club reports on ground conditions will go to racecourse boards, who make policy and spending decisions, rather than just clerks of course. Racecourses will be obliged to keep accurate daily records, including details of rainfall, irrigation, ground and air temperature, routine maintenance, and movement of running rails. Groundsmen will have to obtain national vocational qualifications.

Proper irrigation is regarded as critical and the Jockey Club will lay down minimum requirements in terms of speed of application. "We are looking at being able to apply half an inch in 24 hours but some racecourses won't be able to achieve that straight away," Goodhew said.

The demands placed on racecourses will be backed up by an annual performance review and if tracks consistently fail to meet the necessary standards they will be in danger of losing fixtures or having them switched to a different time of year.



Unguided Missile is likely to be partnered by Williamson in the Cheltenham Gold Cup. Photograph: John Giles

The Jockey Club instruction will also contain guidance on drainage, grass length, frost protection, repairing the ground after use, movement of running rails, maintenance of crossings, and aeration of ground.

Goodhew added: "It will also define certain equipment racecourses must have — or have access to. It would be wrong to expect the smaller courses to own expensive machinery when they can do the job via a good contractor."

Goodhew and his colleagues hope the instruction will lead to ground being no worse than good to firm during the jumps season, or firm on the Flat. However, accurate going reports are a controversial subject in themselves and Jockey Club officials acknowledge there is a perception that clerks of the course, who determine the going, have an incentive to give a favourable verdict in order to encourage bigger fields.

Racecourse stewards, who have to confirm the view of the clerks of the course, have recently been on seminars about going. Although the search is continuing for an instrument which will provide accurate going assessments, the Jockey Club is looking once again at limited use of the penetrometer.

Goodwood, York and Doncaster have found the going findings recorded by such an instrument useful and Epsom, Sandown and Kempton are set to use a penetrometer this year.

On the Cheltenham Festival front, Norman Williamson is likely to ride Unguided Missile for Gordon Richards in next week's Gold Cup.

The Irishman, who landed the Cheltenham showpiece on Master Oats two years ago, will fill the gap left by the Jockey Club doctor's decision to stand Brian Harding down for a year after the rider suffered a seizure.

KELSO

THUNDERER

2.00 Storming Lorna
2.30 Ashgrove Dancer
3.00 Nijway
3.30 Fiveleigh Bullds
4.00 Jason's Boy
4.30 Lagen Bridge
5.00 Smart Approach

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
2.30 ASHGROVE DANCER.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ..... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race) Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — SIS

2.00 TWEED CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,867: 2m 110yd) (8 runners)

1	546200	ANORAK 24 (F) (Asmal Partnership) B Moore 7-12-0	T Hogg (5)	97
2	11-3054	BARTON HEIGHTS 32 (F,S) (Miss C Rawes) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-10	M Herrington (5)	98
3	/312/-FP	BIRTHPLACE 7 (D,S) (G Trevithick) R Tate 7-11-1	D J Kavanagh	–
4	04-0P04	STORMING LORNA 7 (J Smith) W McKeown 7-10-5	Michael Brennan	90
5	U-P5363	ARTHUR BEE 7 (Mrs D Bousfield) B Bousfield 10-10-5	C McCormack (5)	91
6	60-6060	CUILLIN CAPER 43 (B) (R Watson) T Watson 5-10-4	F Callaghan	–
7	006535	OBVIOUS RISK 5 (Mrs K Woodhead) E Caine 5-10-3	Tristan Davidson (7)	94
8	2500PP	BLOOD BROTHER 10 (B) (Kilnsyden Farmers) J Barclay 5-10-0	N Horrocks (3)	–

BETTING: 5-2 Barton Heights, 3-1 Arthur Bee, 7-2 Storming Lorna, 7-1 Obvious Risk, 8-1 Anorak, 10-1 Blood Brother, 14-1 others.

1996 (run at Sedgefield) JOMOVE 7-11-5 C McCormack (11-4 fav) Mrs Reveley 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANORAK best recent effort 3f 2nd of 15 to Kierchem in conditional jockeys selling handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, good). BARTON HEIGHTS tailed-off 4th of 5 to Tilly in handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good). ARTHUR BEE 14l 3rd of 13 to Silver Mine in selling handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, good to soft) with STORMING LORNA 11⁄4l 4th and BIRTHPLACE pulled up 2 out. CUILLIN CAPER tailed-off 11th of 16 to Barbados in novices handicap hurdle at Carlisle (3m 110yd, good to firm). OBVIOUS RISK 5½l 3rd of 18 to Latin Leader in selling handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good).
Selection: ANORAK

2.30 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HUNT MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,091: 3m 3f) (11 runners)

1	46	ALLERBANK 21 (C Storey) Mrs J Storey 5-11-5	Mr C Storey	85
2	0-P2	ASHGROVE DANCER 17 (Ryton Limited) L Lungo 7-11-5	R Supple	89
3	04F-PP0	BUSY BOY 7 (Exors. of R Lamb) D Lamb 10-11-5	J Burke	–
4	00	FARM TALK 14 (P Chilton) M Sowerby 5-11-5	B Storey	–
5	00	FLY EXECUTIVE 8 (S Pilsendrigh) S Pilsendrigh 6-11-5	K Johnson	–
6	0-6	HADAWAY LAD 90 (C Hewitt) H Johnson 5-11-5	A Dobbin	–
7	3P-0	RIVEAUX 11 (R Ogden) G Richards 7-11-5	P Carberry	–
8	P06	SOVEREIGN PASS 10 (Windsure Racing) R Woodhouse 5-11-5	R Garritty	75
9	P0AP	DEAR JEAN 7 (S) (M Sowerby) M Sowerby 7-11-0	D Parker	–
10	6-PU6PP	ESTABLISH 28 (W Harvey) J Dodds 9-11-0	A Thornton	–
11	0	GRAMPSAWINNA 29 (Miss A Bennett) G Oldroyd 9-11-0	G Cahill	–

BETTING: 7-4 Ashgrove Dancer, 5-2 Riveaux, 5-1 Allerbank, 8-1 Hadaway Lad, 12-1 Sovereign Pass, 16-1 Dear Jean, 20-1 others.

1996: ABBEY LAMP 7-11-5 P Carberry (5-1) H Johnson 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALLERBANK 32l 6th to Military Academy in novice hurdle at Ayr (2m 6f, soft). ASHGROVE DANCER 4l 2nd of 19 to Bobby Grant in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good). HADAWAY LAD 53l 6th of 12 to Lagen Bridge in novice hurdle at Catterick (2m 3f, good). RIVEAUX 40l 7th of 10 to Break the Rules in novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, good). Best effort 7l 3rd of 22 to Marchrag Marquis in National Hunt flat race at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft) SOVEREIGN PASS 40l 6th of 16 to Absolutely Equinome in maiden hurdle at Haydock (2m 6f, good). GRAMPSAWINNA 57l 14th of 20 to Wisp Hand in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m, good)
Selection: RIVEAUX

3.00 TEVIOT NOVICES CHASE (£3,600: 2m 1f) (6 runners)

1	5PRPPF	CARDINAL SINNER 45 (B) (J Wade) J Wade 8-11-1	K Jones	–
2	PR0F5	CHILDSWAY 8 (F,S) (S Robinson) S Robinson 9-11-1	Michael Brennan (3)	57
3	00/PP2	MOSS PAGEANT 7 (G) (Mrs F Watson) F Watson 7-11-1	B Storey	92
4	F-0S14F	NUWAY 8 (S) (T Barnes) M Barnes 7-11-1	S Taylor (5)	80
5	0/0501-F	REAL TONIC 18 (BF,S) (R Ogden) G Richards 7-11-1	P Carberry	–
6	41-5402	HEE'S A DANCER 29 (F) (M Nicholson) Mrs L Russell 5-10-7	A Thornton	99

BETTING: 4-5 Real Tonic, 5-2 Hee's A Dancer, 8-1 Moss Pageant, 10-1 Nuway, 16-1 Childsway, 25-1 Cardinal Sinner

1996: WEAVER GEORGE 6-11-3 M Dwyer (5-1) J Hellens 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHILDSWAY 6½l 5th of 7 to Brighter Shade in novice chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good) soh NUWAY fell 9th. MOSS PAGEANT 7l 2nd of 6 to Weaver George in handicap chase at Catterick (2m, good to soft) NUWAY 24½l 4th of 7 to Sparky Gayle in novice chase at Carlisle (2m, good to firm). REAL TONIC fell 5th behind Bold Account in 9-runner novice chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good). Beat Three Wild Days 4½l in 18-runner novices handicap hurdle at Doncaster (3m 110yd, good) final start last season. HEE'S A DANCER 9l 2nd of 9 to Singing Sand in novices handicap chase at Musselburgh (2m, good to firm)
Selection: HEE'S A DANCER

3.30 ETTRICK HANDICAP CHASE (£6,775: 3m 4f) (6 runners)

1	850U-PP	MASTER BOSTON 6 (G,S) (M Oldham) R Woodhouse 9-12-0	P Niven	90
2	113-110	PARSONS BOY 17 (C,D,G,S) (B Ridge) G Richards 5-11-11	A Dobbin	94
3	42P412	FIVELEIGH BULLDS 17 (C,G,S) (Miss L Russell) Mrs L Russell 10-11-10	A Thornton	89
4	PP-3413	COURT MELODY 24 (B,G,S) (J Aplin) P Nicholls 9-11-5	A P McCoy	97
5	52-3311	ACT THE WAG 8 (F,G) (R Ogden) M Todhunter 8-11-5 (6ex)	P Carberry	91
6	412U-42	CALL THE SHOTS 42 (BF,P) (J Wade) J Wade 8-10-0	R Johnson	93

Long handicap: Call The Shots 9-5.

BETTING: 9-4 Act The Wag, 3-1 Fiveleigh Bullds, 7-2 Court Melody, 4-1 Parsons Boy, 8-1 Call The Shots, 16-1 Master Boston.

1996: IFREEE 9-11-6 D Walsh (7-2) P Bowen 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

PARSONS BOY 68l 9th of 12 to Seven Towers in handicap chase at Newcastle (4m 1f, good) Previously beat Class Of Nineteen 9l in 5-runner handicap chase at Haydock (3m 4f 110yd, good) FIVELEIGH BULLDS 21½l 2nd of 7 to Alt The Aces in handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good). COURT MELODY 9½l 3rd of 9 to Lord Gyllene in handicap chase at Uttoxeter (4m 2f, good) ACT THE WAG beat Stoney Bullds 2¼l in 6-runner handicap chase at Newcastle (3m, good) CALL THE SHOTS 4l 2nd of 10 to Barntown Bill in handicap chase at Market Rasen (3m 4f 110yd, good)
Selection: PARSONS BOY (nap)

4.00 YARROW HANDICAP CHASE (£3,418: 2m 6f 110yd) (6 runners)

1	42F5-66	DISCO DES MOTTES 31 (S) (R Ogden) G Richards 8-12-0	P Carberry	–
2	211/P-04	LAST REFUGE 24 (F,S) (Mrs V Oliburn) T Carr 8-11-6	N Smith	–
3	1160P5	BLAZING DAWN 78 (F,G,S) (J Hubbuch) J Hubbuch 10-11-0	B Storey	93
4	3354P4	GRAND SCENERY 28 (F,S) (Scottish Steeplechasing) H Johnson 9-10-11	A Dobbin	94
5	3315-52	JASON'S BOY 10 (F,G,S) (W Jones) J Bradley 7-10-6	R Johnson	94
6	0-04433	RISKY DEE 10 (F,G) (J Hepburn) V Thompson 8-10-0	D Bentley	95

BETTING: 9-4 Disco Des Mottes, 7-2 Jason's Boy, 5-1 Grand Scenery, Last Refuge, 6-1 Blazing Dawn, Risky Dee.

1998: CROSS CANNON 10-11-10 T Reed (11-1) J Hellens 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

DISCO DES MOTTES 31l 5th of 7 to Pureadius in handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 7f, good) LAST REFUGE 17½l 4th of 13 to Rubet in an amateur riders novices handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good) BLAZING DAWN 70l last of 5 to Stoney Coral in handicap chase at Newcastle (3m, good) GRAND SCENERY 16½l 4th of 10 to Son Of Iris in handicap chase at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) JASON'S BOY 9l 2nd of 4 to Over The Pole in handicap chase at Doncaster (3m 3f 110yd, good) RISKY DEE 7¼l 3rd of 5 to Judicial Field in handicap chase at Musselburgh (2m 4f, good).
Selection: JASON'S BOY

4.30 GLEN NOVICES HURDLE (£2,320: 2m 6f 110yd) (9 runners)

1	4-31215	LAGEN BRIDGE 17 (G,S) (Mrs Eileen M Milligan) D Moffatt 8-12-0	D J Moffatt	88
2	0/	ABSOLUTELY JOHN 647 (I Lightfoot) M Todhunter 9-11-2	C McCormack (7)	–
3	00404-0	CASTLE RED 120 (J Wade) J Wade 6-11-2	K Jones	87
4	00-503	CAUGHT AT LAST 10 (E Fenwick) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-2	P Niven	77
5	60	DOMINEGALE 32 (S Lycett, Excors of T Tate 5-11-2	R Garritty	–
6	05	HOUSELOPE SPRING 19 (F Wilson) H Johnson 5-11-2	S Taylor (5)	–
7	044-4PP	PERSIAN ORANGE 19 (D Pratt) D Lamb 7-11-2	J Burke	–
8	0PP-P	RYE RUM 26 (J Aynsley) J Aynsley 6-11-2	B Storey	–
9	02-420	SIR BOB 10 (J Smart) W McKeown 5-11-2	A Dobbin	98

BETTING: 10-11 Lagen Bridge, 7-2 Sir Bob, 5-1 Caught At Last, 14-1 Absolutely John, 16-1 Castle Red Dominegale, Houselope Spring, 20-1 others.

1998: SHALLOW RIVER 5-11-2 R Dunwoody (2-1 fav) R Collins 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

LAGEN BRIDGE 12l 5th of 8 to Boardroom Shuffle in grade II Colin Dawes Persian War Premier Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, soft) Previously beat SIR BOB (6lb better off) 1¾l in 12-runner novices hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, good to soft). CASTLE RED 31l 8th of 9 to Stan's Your Man in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 6f, good to firm). Better effort 7¼l 4th of 16 to Master Sandy in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) final start last season CAUGHT AT LAST 8¼l 3rd of 7 to Stanbrough in novice hurdle at Musselburgh (2m 4f, good) HOUSELOPE SPRING tailed off 5th of 15 to Meadow Hymn in novice hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good) with PERSIAN ORANGE pulled up 8th.
Selection: LAGEN BRIDGE

5.00 TILL HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,763: 3m 3f) (5 runners)

1	1111-40	MASTER OF THE ROCK 105 (V,F,G,S) J Mackie 8-11-10	E Husband (3)	90
2	243222	SMART APPROACH 5 (F) (Mrs M Tweatsie) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-4	P Niven	89
3	233104	PHARARE 11 (F,S) (C Colquhoun) R Woodhouse 7-11-3	P Carberry	95
4	51209U-	KIR 550 (D,F,G) (L Oversley) V Thompson 9-10-2	D Bentley	–
5	145-P02	SOLOMAN SPRINGS 32 (F) (A Kidd) Mrs V Ward 7-10-0	R Johnson	92

BETTING: 11-10 Smart Approach, 3-1 Pharare, 7-2 Master Of The Rock, 6-1 Soloman Springs, 20-1 Kir

1996: D'ARBLAY STREET 7-10-0 S McDougall (14-1) W Kemp 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

MASTER OF THE ROCK 39l last of 7 to Barryben in handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110y, good to soft). SMART APPROACH 16l 2nd of 7 to Young Kenny in novice hurdle at Wetherby (3m 1f, heavy). PHARARE 159l 4th of 11 to Mr Strong Gale in handicap hurdle at Southwell (2m 110y, good) KIR 49l last of 7 to Gemmen Legend in handicap hurdle at Hexham (3m, firm) on last completed outing. SOLOMAN SPRINGS 8l 2nd of 5 to Tilly in handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110y, good).
Selection: SMART APPROACH

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs J Storey	6	16	37.5	P Niven	48	134	35.8
Mrs M Reveley	36	124	29.3	Mr C Storey	6	20	30.0
G M Moore	13	58	22.4	R Garritty	10	47	21.3
G Richards	22	107	20.6	P Carberry	7	36	19.4
J Johnson	15	77	19.5	A Dobbin	28	149	18.8
J Barclay	5	46	10.9	A Thornton	9	53	17.0

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.20 Teeton Mill. 2.50 **EASTERN RIVER** (nap). 3.20 Minella Express. 3.50 Avostar. 4.20 Elmore. 4.50 Corly Special.

Carl Evans: 2.20 Teeton Mill. 3.20 Minella Express. 3.50 Corner Boy. 4.20 Elmore. 4.50 Corly Special.

GOING: GOOD (SOFT IN PLACES) — SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.20 SQUIRE OSBALDESTON MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs £2,088 3m 4f 110yd) (16 runners)

101 U-12 ARCTIC CHILL 23P (F,S) Mr S Hickey 7-12-7 Miss S Vickery (7) –
112 11-3 CHERRY ISLAND 17P (F,G,S) H Lloyd 9-12-7 J Jukes (5) –
103 -3SP COOLGREEN 12P (D) S Bates 9-12-7 N Bradley (7) –
104 6-33 COUNT BALDO 16P (G) M Wood 8-12-7 P Howse (7) –
105 -213 CRAFTSMAN 17P (F,G,S) G Paul 11-12-7 Miss A Embanoes (7) –
106 11-2 DARK RHYTHM 19P (F) C Coombe 8-12-7 S Morris (7) –
107 FP-P DASHBOARD LIGHT 13 (S) Mrs C Caddy 7-12-7 S Andrews (5) –
108 13- JUDGEROGER 360P (F,G,S) T Jones 11-12-7 G Lewis (7) –
109 P-2P NOBLE ANGEL 16P P Winston 9-12-7 A Dalton (7) –
110 233- PAULELA'S LAD 381P (G,S) G Hanmer 11-12-7 G Hanmer (7) BF
111 21-5 PONEY BRIDGE 10P (F) S Burt 9-12-7 S Robinson (7) –
112 -1-2 SANDYMERE 10P (F,S) J Pritchard 8-12-7 J Pritchard (7) –
113 F1-1 TEETON MILL 16P (G,S) Mrs C Saunders 8-12-7 B Pollock (5) –
114 PR- TELLAPORNY 222 T Hind 8-12-7 A Middleton (7) –
115 6-54 UP FOR RANSOME 124 Mrs A Hampton 6-12-7 G Sherwin (7) –
116 PF1 DIAMOND WIND 9P (G) Countess Grall Dunrun 9-12-2 Miss E Jones (7) –

5-2 Teeton Mill, 6-1 Dark Rhythm, 10-1 Cherry Island, 12-1 Noble Chil, Sandymere, Diamond Wind, 14-1 others.

2.50 LEICESTERSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE YEOMANRY HANDICAP CHASE (Amateurs £2,646 2m 4f 110yd) (9)

121 1222 EASTERN RIVER 12 (CD,G,S) T Forster 11-11-10 Mr R Thornton (5) BF
122 P663 DOLMIO 7 (D,S) T Cornwall 10-11-10 R Ford (5) 91
123 26P6 GLEN HERRAGE 18 (F,G,S) D Coombe 10-11-5 Mr M Coombe (7) 93
124 6346 PRIZE MATCH 29 (S) J Jukes 8-10-13 D McPhail (7) 95
125 12P1 CRAIL'S TREASPOT 13 (F,G,S) I Brown 10-10-9 Mr R Brown (7) 85
126 5266 PRINCETON PEGGY 22 (B,S) P Bevan 10-10-6 A Roscoe (7) 84
127 FPP- STRAITEN GLASS 312 N Hunt 7-10-2 R Wilson (7) –
128 P/56 POLITICIAN 104 J Wadham 7-10-2 G Wadham (7) 91
129 P0P0 WILCOVE HARBOUR 15 (D,G,S) P Bevan 9-10-2 Mr P Bevan (7) 90

Evens Eastern River, 3-1 Dolmio, 7-1 Crail's Treaspot, 8-1 Glen Herrage, 10-1 Princeton Peggy, 12-1 Politician, 14-1 others.

3.20 MELTON HUNT CLUB HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs £2,005 3m 4f 110yd) (6)

131 1-31 MINELLA EXPRESS 10P (F,G,S) Mrs C Saunders 12-12-5 Miss E Jones (7) –
132 11-3 SILSMAN 17P (F,G) T Forster 9-12-0 D Jones (7) 81
133 1-F3 PRO BONO 19 (F,G) S Curtis 9-12-0 A Sansome (5) 92
134 0-21 TEFAST LAD 13 (F,G) D Pipe 8-12-0 P Hamerton (7) 97
135 6/1-3 KANNAVALTA RASCLER 10P (D,F,G) Mrs C Saunders 7-12-0 Miss E Jones (7) –
136 0-2 YOUNG MIRACO 17P (D,S) Mrs C Saunders 10-11-12 J G Murphy (7) –

6-4 Minella Express, 7-2 Pro Bono, 4-1 Silsman, 6-1 Tefast Lad, 10-1 Kannavalta Rascler, 14-1 Young Miraco, 16-1 Normanda Rambler

3.50 ARTHUR CLERKE-BROWN & GRAHAM PIDGEON MEMORIAL HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs £3,530 3m) (7)

201 1P-2 AVOSTAR 20 (D,G,S) Mrs C Saunders 10-11-7 B Pollock (5) 91
202 1P-1 ELMORE 17P (C,D) P Cowen 10-11-7 P Hatsey (3) –
203 7-50 CARRYLOCAS 12P (S) J Jukes 11-11-5 G Hunnisett (7) –
204 3-64 MITCHELLS RETT 13P (C,S) K Honeyborough 11-11-5 J Jukes (5) –
205 4-66 BROKN MONKEY 16P (F,S) C Bonner 9-11-5 D McPhail (7) –
206 233- DE LARTIGUE 229P (G,S) Mrs C Saunders 9-11-5 A Dalton (7) –
207 23-4 PENLEY 16P (G,S) J Pritchard 7-11-5 J Pritchard (7) –
208 SCALE DOWN Mrs C Saunders 7-11-5 A Sansome (5) –
209 1-44 THE CRITTERCISM 10P (F,G,S) M Tompkins 10-11-5 Mr T Tompkins (7) –

7-4 Copper Thistle, 3-1 Elmore, 7-1 Penley, 8-1 Mitchells Best, 10-1 others

4.20 GARTHORPE MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs £2,153 3m) (9)

221 P-21 COPPER THISTLE 10P (F,G,S) Mrs C Saunders 9-12-0 R Hurnisett (7) –
222 1P-1 ELMORE 17P (C,D) P Cowen 10-11-5 P Hatsey (3) –
223 7-50 CARRYLOCAS 12P (S) J Jukes 11-11-5 G Hunnisett (7) –
224 3-64 MITCHELLS RETT 13P (C,S) K Honeyborough 11-11-5 J Jukes (5) –
225 4-66 BROKN MONKEY 16P (F,S) C Bonner 9-11-5 D McPhail (7) –
226 233- DE LARTIGUE 229P (G,S) Mrs C Saunders 9-11-5 A Dalton (7) –
227 23-4 PENLEY 16P (G,S) J Pritchard 7-11-5 J Pritchard (7) –
228 SCALE DOWN Mrs C Saunders 7-11-5 A Sansome (5) –
229 1-44 THE CRITTERCISM 10P (F,G,S) M Tompkins 10-11-5 Mr T Tompkins (7) –

7-4 Copper Thistle, 3-1 Elmore, 7-1 Penley, 8-1 Mitchells Best, 10-1 others

4.50 THRUSTERS HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs £2,053 2m 1f) (14)

231 1P-1 BEAU CADEN 37 (C,G,S) Mrs C Saunders 10-12-3 T Marks (7) 93
232 0-23 CORLY SPECIAL 229 (F,G,S) Mrs C Saunders 10-11-10 D Jukes (5) 93
233 P4-P MAPP FRIDD 205P (F,G,S) Mrs C Saunders 11-11-7 Mr M Coombe (7) –
234 P3-5 HOW FRIENDLY 365P (F) D Coombe 9-11-7 Mr T Coombe (7) –
235 6-22 JACK THE TD 16P J Cornwall 9-11-5 J Cornwall (7) –
236 5PP- MASTER CRUSOE 296 (F) J Gosden 9-11-10 P Gosden (7) –
237 70-P NINEWEARS 11 (F,S) P Bevan 7-11-10 A Gallagher (7) 89
238 13-3 NOMARSH 23P (F,G) T Forster 8-11-10 Miss C Lerrell (7) –
239 3P-P QUARTER WARNER 10P (F) P Bevan 7-11-10 J Pritchard (7) –
240 FFP TRUIST SON 10 Miss C Saunders 10-11-10 D Hamner (7) –
241 FPP- TUBALIN 007 203 J Jukes 8-11-10 G Wilson (7) –
242 005- A WINDY CITEEN 273 (C,F,G,S) Mrs C Saunders 11-11-2 Mr A Lancaster (5) 83
243 0/U CAPPAMORE 32 (F,S) J Jukes 9-11-5 M Rimell (3) –
244 PP- MICHELLES CRYSTAL 366P P Mathews 8-11-5 L Bevan (7) –

Evens Miss Daisy, 5-1 Nineweares, 6-1 Corly Special, Beau Caden, 10-1 Jack The Td, 12-1 A Windy Citeen, 16-1 others

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Kelso 2.10 Blood Brother. Exeter Copper

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.10 Blues Magic. 2.40 Prizefighter. 3.10 Captain Marmalade. 3.40 Live Project. 4.10 Tuigamala. 4.40 English Invader.

GOING: STANDARD — SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 TENNYSON CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,739: 5f) (9 runners)

1 2512 EAGER TO PLEASE 24 (B,C,BF,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 8-11 D Holland 1
2 0-15 KRYSTAL DAVEY 32 (CD,G) T Barron 8-11 D Harrison 9
3 0-24 LUNAR MUSIC 22 (CD,F) M Meade 8-10 D Sweeney (5) 2
4 2423 BLUES MAGIC 10 M Bell 8-7 G Faulkner (5) 8
5 0- NOT OUT LAD 265 P Burke 8-7 S Downes 4
6 63-2 THREEPLAY 27 (BF) J Akehurst 8-5 J Bramhill (5) 5
7 4151 CHILLING 6 (D,G) N Tinkler 8-2 DOUBTFUL 7
8 3144 SPARKLING EDGE 10 (CD,F,G) C Dwyer 8-2 D R McCabe 3
9 4335 MA VIELLE POUSSE 6 W G M Turner 7-10 N Carlisle 6

7-2 Blues Magic, 4-1 Eager To Please, 5-1 Sparkling Edge, 7-1 Krystal Davey, Threeplay, 8-1 Ma Vielle Pousse, 10-1 others

2.40 KEATS HANDICAP (£3,355: 1m 2f) (8)

1 114- FAIRY KNIGHT 121 (D,F,G) R Hannon 5-9-10 R Hughes 4
2 015- PRIZEFIGHTER 263 (C,F,G) J Eyre 6-9-9 O Pears (3) 6
3 06-6 DIGPAST 14 (C,G) M Madgwick 7-9-8 D Harrison 8
4 -310 SWEET SUPPOSIN 14 (V,CD,BF,G) C Dwyer 6-9-4 J Stack 7
5 40-4 MIMOSA 12 (F) C Dore 4-8-10 W Ryan 1
6 5-58 FERKAB 43 (D,F) D Morris 4-8-9 G Faulkner (5) 5
7 -042 BAKERS DAUGHTER 7 (CD,G) J Arnold 5-8-2 Martin Dwyer (3) 3
8 -361 CAPTAIN'S DAY 7 (CD,F,G) H Collingridge 5-7-12 (5ex) R Mullen (5) 2

2-1 Fairy Knight, 4-1 Captain's Day, 9-2 Prizefighter, 5-1 Sweet Supposin, 6-1 Bakers Daughter, 8-1 Mimosa, 10-1 others

3.10 SPIRIT OF CHAMPIONS HANDICAP (£2,428: 2m) (10)

1 6116 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 5 (B,CD,F,G) W Munson 7-10-0 M Baird (3) 4
2 3612 COLERIDGE 1 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Sheehan 9-9-10 A Clark 1
3 -613 MATTHIAS MYSTIQUE 5 (CD,G) Miss B Sanders 4-9-10 A Whelan (3) 6
4 66-0 OUTSTAYED WELCOME 45 (F) M Haynes 5-9-1 D Harrison 7
5 00 3 BEDOUIN PRINCE 12 (G) Mrs L Stubbs 10-8-11 K Fallon 5
6 0020 UDRI 14 (D) P Butler 4-8-9 J Bramhill (5) 8
7 4004 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 181 (V,CD,G) D Thom 8-8-7 J Tate 10
8 00-5 KIROV PROTEGE 7 (G) Mrs L Jewett 5-8-4 Darren Williams (7) 2
9 600- ALLEZ PABLO 167 J A Rowe 7-7-10 N Carlisle 3
10 0.02 HIGH FIVE 5 (G) R Ingram 7-7-10 G Bardwell 9

5-1 Coleridge, 7-2 High Five, 4-1 Matthias Mystique, 5-1 Broughtons Formula, 8-1 Captain Marmalade, 10-1 Kirov Protege, Udri, 14-1 others

3.40 COLERIDGE HANDICAP (£3,306: 1m) (7)

1 0022 ROBELLION 14 (V,CD,F,G) D Arbuthnot 6-9-12 D Harrison 1
2 -156 ROYAL CARLTON 4 (CD,G) G L Moore 6-9-11 S Whitworth 7
3 000- ETHBAAR 123 (D,F,G) M Weston-Ellis 6-9-3 A Clark 4
4 -554 DEEPLY VALE 10 (C,F,G,S) P Butler 6-9-5 S Drowne 3
5 50-5 WORLDWIDE ELSIE 35 (D,F,G) I Campbell 4-9-2 T G McLaughlin 5
6 530- ALLISON'S MATE 95 (CD,F,G) T Barron 9-9-2 Victoria Appleby (7) 2
7 6102 LIVE PROJECT 10 (G,S) M Johnston 5-8-11 G Hotland 6

5-1 Robellion, 7-2 Royal Carlton, 4-1 Live Project, 9-2 Allinson's Mate, 6-1 Deeply Vale, 12-1 Ethbaar, 16-1 Worldwide Elsie

4.10 WORDSWORTH LIMITED STAKES (£2,473: 1m) (6)

1 -615 RAWI 31 (C,BF,G) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-8 D Holland 3
2 -045 SUPERIOR FORCE 33 (CD,F,G) Mrs B Sanders 4-9-2 A Whelan (5) 1
3 -030 KI CHI SAGA 21 (G,S) M Madgwick 5-9-0 R Hughes 6
4 00-0 OCEAN STREAM 34 J Eyre 4-9-0 D McKeown 7
5 0-64 PERILOUS FLIGHT 31 (CD,F,G) Mrs L Stubbs 6-9-0 K Fallon 4
6 0023 STATISTICIAN 10 (E,F) John Berry 5-9-0 Amy Cook (7) 2
7 0-03 TUIGAMALA 5 (CD,BF,F,G) R Ingram 6-9-0 A McGlone 5
8 345- LA PERRUCHE 309 Lord Huntingdon 4-8-9 D Harrison 8

7-2 Tuigamala, 4-1 Rawi, 9-2 La Perruche, 5-1 Statistician, 6-1 Perilous Flight, 7-1 Superior Force, 8-1 others

4.40 SHAKESPEARE AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (£2,804: 1m 5f) (10)

1 1112 HATTAAFEH 10 (CD,BF,G) Mrs B Sanders 6-11-7 Miss L Sheen (4) 3
2 21-2 HEIGHTH OF FAME 28 (CD,G) J Hetherton 6-11-7 J Byrne (7) 1
3 065- GOLD BLADE 83 (C,D,F,G) J Pearce 6-11-0 Mrs L Pearce 7
4 222- LORD 117 (C,F,G,S) G Lewis 9-10-11 M Annytage 6
5 102- SWINGING SIXTIES 13J (G,S) C L Moore 6-10-8 Mrs J Moore (4) 2
6 4134 ENGLISH INVADER 10 (CD,G,S) C Dwyer 5-10-5 T McCarthy 8
7 -040 STACLED 10 (C,F,G,S) P Walwyn 7-10-2 Miss Francesa Staddon (4) 9
8 004 RAY RIVER 1034 R Bingham 5-9-9 Mrs H Noonan (4) 4
9 4563 CLAS

FOOTBALL

Porto's recent loss of form gives United the edge

BOBBY ROBSON



On testing ties for two English clubs

A couple of months ago, when the teams reached the European Cup quarter-finals, I thought that my old club, Porto, would have the edge over Manchester United. Since then, United have gone top of the FA Carling Premiership and Porto have just had two awful results in Portugal. I think, perhaps, the roles may now have been reversed.

I still think that Porto are an excellent team. They have had a very good season. But, even though they have still got a good chance of edging it against United, they have gained just one of a possible six points recently. They have had more than just a hiccup and they will be having a real crisis of confidence.

Porto will, however, still come to Old Trafford tomorrow determined and quite confident, and United will have to play at their very best, because the Portuguese are masters, in particular, at playing away from home. They will go to Manchester full of belief in themselves, even though that might have been a bit tempered by their past two results after such a long time unbeaten.

But I am a big fan of David Beckham, Roy Keane and Eric Cantona, in particular, at United and even though there is still a chance that Porto, with all of their excellent players, could edge it, I think that the balance has now swung in favour of Manchester.

In the Uefa Cup, Newcastle United are in trouble. They have got all those attacking players missing and they will find it difficult against AS Monaco. They have not got much experience in Europe and the French league, with Auxerre, Paris Saint-Germain and Monaco, is a strong one.

Regardless of the fact that Newcastle are depleted, I would still make Monaco favourites for the tie tonight. Perhaps, if Newcastle get a few of their players back, they might be able to put up a fight in the second leg, but it will be very tough for them.

In the Cup Winners' Cup, I expect Liverpool to go through comfortably to the semi-finals against SK Brann, of Bergen, and I think Paris Saint Germain and Fiorentina will be there, too, along with my team, Barcelona. If we draw Liverpool in the semi-finals, with all their weight of European success, we will give them the respect they deserve.

From what I hear about the coverage of recent events in Spain from England, there will be some people who are surprised to hear I have still got a job here. Well, every time Barcelona lose, the press here get vicious and I suppose that rubs off on English coverage.

We had a bad result against Tenerife — one of two Spanish teams still in the Uefa Cup — last Saturday when we lost 4-0, but we had two players sent off and conceded two penalties. When you are playing with nine men for nearly half the match, it does not give you much chance of getting any sort of result.

That match came on the back of a sensational result against Atlético Madrid in the Spanish Cup, when we drew 2-2 and should really have won. We had earlier beaten Real Madrid in that competition and we have got a great chance of going into the last four in that, too, because of the first-leg result against Atlético.

In some ways, we are becoming the Jekyll and Hyde of Spanish football. We are capable of beating anyone on our day, capable of playing some wonderful football that really excites the fans, but we are going through an infuriatingly inconsistent period. One day, we will be at the top of the mountain, the next we will be on the valley floor.

In the light of that, obviously our match against AIK Stockholm in Barcelona on Thursday is crucial and one that we would dearly love to win convincingly. It is very important for everyone at the club, me included, that we progress to the semi-finals.

People might be saying it is make-or-break for me, but a couple of weeks ago the Barcelona president, Josep Lluis Nuñez, issued a communiqué asking for a little tranquillity from the press and requesting some time for the coach and the team to do their job.

"Robson is here until the end of the season at least," he said. We all know that Real Madrid are in the driving seat in the Spanish league, but I am hoping that they slipped up against Español last night. Whatever, they still have to come to the Nou Camp in May and, if we take three points off them in Barcelona, all of a sudden their advantage does not look quite so commanding.

DRAWS

UEFA CUP: Quarter-finals: Anderlecht v Internazionale Tenerife v Brondby, Schalke 04 v Valencia; Newcastle Utd v AS Monaco

EUROPEAN CUP: Quarter-finals: Ajax v Atletico Madrid; Borussia Dortmund v Auxerre, Manchester United v FC Porto, Rosenborg v Juventus.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finals: Barcelona v AIK Stockholm; Benfica v Fiorentina, Paris Saint-Germain v AEK Athens; SK Brann v Liverpool

First-named teams home in first leg, second legs on March 18, 19 and 20



Les Ferdinand, who is doubtful for the match tonight, still overshadowed John Collins and Sonny Anderson, of AS Monaco, when they arrived at Newcastle airport yesterday

Bruce and Francis aim to keep Wolves from door

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

FEBRUARY was not a good month for Birmingham City. Six defeats in six matches, including the FA Cup embarrassment against Wrexham, effectively ended their hopes of securing a Nationwide League first division play-off place. Instead, the spectre of relegation loomed large over St Andrew's.

Another month, another mood. Birmingham began March with a 2-1 victory against Grimsby Town, at Blundell Park on Saturday, and attempt to alleviate their fears further when they play Wolverhampton Wanderers at home tonight.

Trevor Francis, the Birmingham manager, has juggled his players regularly in an effort to rediscover the winning combination but is still bemused by black February. "I don't agree that the players have lacked fight or spirit," he said. "They were trying their best but it is human nature for confidence to evaporate when it appears you cannot stop losing.

"We were not defending particularly well and, when the goals went in, you could see the players' heads dropping. That didn't used to happen. It is my job to change it and I'm ready for the challenge. The problems are not insurmountable and, hopefully, beating Grimsby will have helped."

For Steve Bruce, the Birmingham captain and former Manchester United defender, it has been a strange and unnerving experience. "I don't think I've lost six games in a row before and it's not been enjoyable," he said. "We have to believe in ourselves and keep trying to do the things that brought us success earlier in the season."

Birmingham's display against Wolves, who lie in second place in the first division and have collected ten wins in 16 away games, should indicate whether their revival is genuine or merely another false dawn. Either way, Midlands passions will run high.

"There's bound to be a big, noisy crowd, so anything can happen," Bruce said. "It could work in our favour and provide us with the sort of tonic we've been looking for."

Crystal Palace's recent indifferent run came to a shuddering halt when they won 4-1 against Oxford United at the Manor Ground on Saturday. Yet, they are likely to face more formidable opposition this evening when Bolton Wanderers, the first division leaders, visit Selhurst Park.

Steve Coppell eased himself back into management after the departure of Dave Bassett last week, by allowing Ray Lewington, the Palace first-team coach, to select the side that demolished Oxford. "We could have scored a lot more," Lewington said. "We took our foot off the pedal a bit too early.

"We've now got to start producing that sort of performance at home. It's our biggest game of the season so far and we desperately need a good win over decent opposition."

IN BRIEF

Graham stays on comeback course

IN SPITE of calls from friends and well-wishers to stay in retirement, Herol Graham continues with his comeback at the Elephant and Castle Leisure Centre tonight (Srikumar Sen writes). He meets Craig Joseph, of Bradford, in his second bout since returning in November. He had retired four years earlier after a 14-year career encompassing 50 contests and 18 title bouts.

In his last appearance, against Terry Ford, an American, Graham looked so vulnerable that ringsiders were concerned about his health. He did not seem to have the reflexes and power of the old "Bomber", but he has decided to carry on for financial reasons.

"I'll be better this time than I was in my last fight," he said. "I've got a pact with my doctor. If I get beat up, or have a bruising fight, I'm quitting. I don't need it."

New direction

Basketball: English Basketball Association officials had to get their atlases out yesterday when England were told they had to go to Pezinok, a small mining town near Bratislava, for the qualifying round of the 1999 European championship in May. Drawn in group C, England will, in addition to their match against Slovakia, have to play Luxembourg and Switzerland. With the top two teams to qualify, England will be expected to progress.

Fitness test

Badminton: The Badminton Association of England yesterday confirmed that Jo Muggeridge would not be considered for future international selection because of her dispute with Stephen Baddeley, the director of elite play. Muggeridge will not receive funding for tournaments or train with the national squad until she can "demonstrate her commitment and fitness".

Moving target

Shooting: The North London Rifle Club, which resurrected its own classic revolver match five years ago, after an 80-year gap, ended the section's short life by winning the Bisley Club's revolver match by 26 points. The teams were firing pre-1919 revolvers, many of them of the Wild West and First World War .45 calibre that will soon be illegal under post-Dunblane legislation.

Henman hailed

Tennis: Tim Henman, the Great Britain No 1, is among three nominations for the most improved player of the year award for 1996, to be decided at the annual ATP awards ceremony at Miami Beach on March 19.

CORRECTION

The telephone number for Concept II was given incorrectly in the Sport For All article about indoor rowing yesterday. It should have been 0115 942 1925.

Bridges on brink of recall to relegation battle

BY PETER BALL

THE game at Roker Park tonight always looked likely to be important for Sunderland in the battle against relegation from the FA Carling Premiership. It has now become important for Tottenham Hotspur too.

Tottenham are only seven points clear of West Ham United in eighteenth position, the third relegation place, and Gerry Francis, their manager, admitted yesterday: "We have got to take the situation seriously. We are slipping into areas where we don't want to be."

Sunderland are three points worse off than their visitors and, with Manchester United due at Roker Park on Saturday, they desperately need to end a sequence of three games without a goal. It will not be easy for Sunderland, who are, with Leeds United, the Premiership's lowest scorers.

"This is a massive game for us," Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager, said. "We've just got to be positive, go out and get our attack going. There must be a vast improvement on the performance in our last home game against Leeds [a 1-0 defeat]."

Desperate circumstances sometimes require desperate measures and Reid may recall Michael Bridges, the 18-year-old forward, after a six-week absence recovering from a groin operation. "I don't want him to come back too soon and risk another long lay-off," Reid said, but his options are limited with Paul Stewart unavailable and John Mullin doubtful.

Chelsea's season took a turn for the worse yesterday when an X-ray confirmed that Ruud Gullit has a hairline fracture of the ankle. Gullit, the player-manager, will be in plaster for a month and is unlikely to play again this season. Eddie Newton, Craig Burley, Dan Petrescu and Erland Johnsen are also injury doubts for Chelsea ahead of the meeting with Blackburn Rovers at Stamford Bridge tomorrow night.

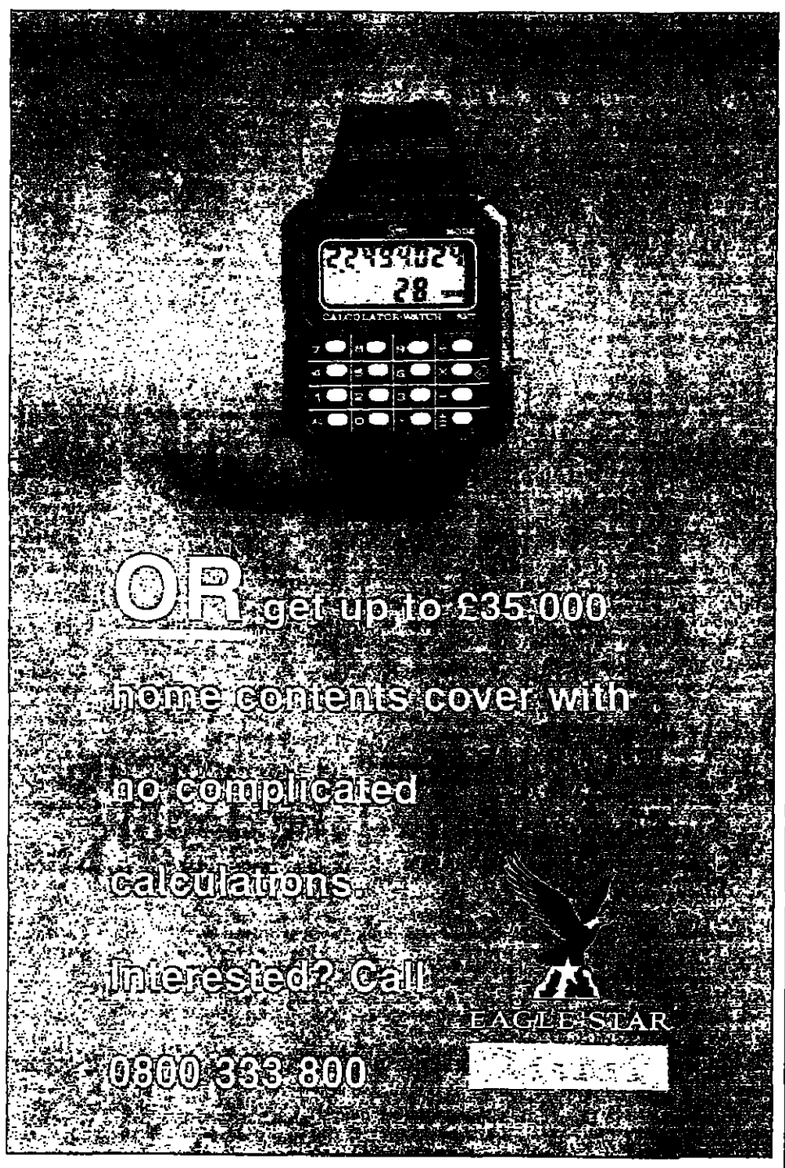
Manchester United are waiting for news of Roy Keane as they prepare for the European Cup quarter-final first leg with FC Porto at Old Trafford tomorrow. Keane twisted an ankle last week and missed the win over Coventry City on Saturday, which took United four points clear at the top of the Premiership.

His absence was precautionary and, yesterday, the swelling had come down and he played a full part in training. Unless he suffers a reaction, his presence in the team tomorrow night seems certain. "We're still waiting on Roy, he's the real important one for us," Alex Ferguson said. The United manager was yesterday named the manager of the month for February.

During the autumn, Europe had proved a distraction from domestic considerations, but yesterday Ferguson dismissed suggestions that the demands of both competitions would undermine his team. "We can cope with the demands," he said. "The challenge the players face now is no different from last year, when they were going for the domestic double."

Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the Football Association, is continuing discussions with United and Arsenal in his attempt to end the feud between Peter Schmeichel, the United goalkeeper, and Ian Wright, the Arsenal striker. It erupted in an angry exchange of words at the end of the game at Highbury two weeks ago after Wright had made a two-footed tackle on the Dane.

The pair had also clashed during the clubs' meeting at Old Trafford in November, when Schmeichel was accused of making racist comments to the Arsenal player.



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HOCKEY

Oxford set sights on record

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

OXFORD will be aiming to set a record of seven successive victories in the University match when it is staged at the National Stadium, in Milton Keynes, for the first time a week today.

While Cambridge, under the captaincy of Mike Meredith, have announced the XI that will start the match, Oxford's injury problems have forced them to defer the final selection from a squad of 16 until after the National League game against Firebrands at the weekend.

The Oxford squad contains five Blues, including Dan Edwards, who was awarded his second Blue in 1995 and has returned from a year abroad. John MacCormick was awarded three Blues by Cambridge. There are two New Zealanders in the Oxford squad — Matthew Barr, the captain and MacCormick — while the fathers of Ben Raumann and Toby Griffiths both played in earlier varsity matches for Oxford.

Meredith will be making his fifth appearance in the University match, having played three times before for Oxford. His first match, in 1990, was the last time Cambridge won.

John Cadman will be coaching Cambridge for the final time this year. He has held the post since 1984.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY (from): L Crofts (King's, Bruton and St Catherine's), D Morant (St Edward's, Bath and Magdalen), * T Griffiths (Whitgift and Keble), J MacCormick (Auckland GS and Exeter), * M Barr (King's HS, New Zealand and New College, captain), * B Raumann (Canford and St Catherine's), J Renwick (Kingston GS and Lincoln), R Wilcock (Manchester GS and Brasenose), G Bretten (Clifton and Keble), T Matthews (Hills Road Sixth Form Coll and St Edmund Hall), * D Edwards (Epsom and St Edmund Hall), T Johnson (Whitgift and Jesus), J Cuttress (Bedford and Worcester), C Oliver (Cranleigh and Keble), * B Cope (Bedford and Brasenose), J Hodges (Norwich and Queen's)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: * P Piotrowicz (Radcliffe and Fitzwilliam), G Brew (Whitgift and Emmanuel), I Sands (Eastbourne and Robinson), * M Meredith (Ratcliffe and Pembroke, captain), * D Churton (Wellington Coll and St Catharine's), * I Bateman (Bishop's Stortford and Emmanuel), * C Mannall (Pilgrim Upper and Homerton), G Playfair (Methodist, Belfast and Robinson), J Mayer (The Perse and St John's), * D Harding (RGS, High Wycombe and Robinson), * T Parr (RGS, High Wycombe and Sidney Sussex) Substitutes: T Gilman (Marlborough and Hughes Hall), C Lipscomb (Kingston GS and Sidney Sussex), M Loose (Reading Blue Coats and St Catharine's), D Heathcote (Katherine Lady Berkley and Christ's), H Ward (Ellesmere and Emmanuel)

* denotes Blue

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday March 8
Coupon No. fixture, forecast

FA PREMIERSHIP
1 Arsenal v Nott'm F 1
2 Leeds v Everton 1
3 Sunderl'd v Man Utd 2

FIRST DIVISION
4 Birm'gham v S'thend 1
5 Bolton v Swindon 1
6 Bradford v Grimsby X
7 Charlton v C Palace 2
8 Man City v Oldham 1
9 Norwich v P Vale 1
10 Oxford v West Brom X
11 QPR v Hudd'field 1
12 Stoke v Ipswich 2
13 Wolves v Tranmere 1

SECOND DIVISION
14 Burnley v Peterboro 1
15 Gillingham v Watford 2
16 Luton v Millwall X
17 Notts Co v Crewe 2
18 Plym'th v Rotherham 2
19 Preston v Brentford 1
20 Stockport v Bury 1
21 Walsall v Shrewsbury 1
22 Wycombe v Bristol R 1
23 York v Blackpool X

THIRD DIVISION
24 Brighton v Leyton O 1
25 Chester v Barnet 1
26 Doncaster v Hull X
27 Fulham v Scarboro X
28 Hereford v North'pton 2
29 Lincoln v Hartlepool 1
30 Mansfield v Cardiff 2
31 Rochdale v Wigan 1
32 Scunthorpe v Carlisle X
33 Swansea v Exeter 1
34 Torquay v Darlington X

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE
35 Kid'minster v Halifax 1
36 Southport v Famboro 1
37 Stalybr'ge v Alt'cham 1
38 Stevenage v N'tmwich X
39 Telford v Slough 1
40 Welling v Macclesf'ld 2

SCOTTISH SECOND
41 Ayr v Q of South 1
42 Clyde v Stranraer 1
43 Dumbarton v Berwick 2
44 Liv'gston v Stenh'muir 1

SCOTTISH THIRD
45 Alloa v Albion 2
46 Arbroath v Forfar X
47 Montrose v E Stirling 1
48 Q Park v Inverness CT 2
49 Ross v Cowdenbeath 1

DRAWS (home teams): Bradford, Oxford, Luton, York, Doncaster, Fulham, Scunthorpe, Torquay, Stevenage, Arbroath.

BEST DRAWS: Oxford, York, Doncaster, Scunthorpe, Torquay.

AWAYS: Manchester United, Crystal Palace, Ipswich, Crewe, Cardiff

HOMES: Bolton, Manchester City, Burnley, Walsall, Brighton, Lincoln, Kidderminster, Southport, Ayr, Montrose.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Bolton, Manchester City, Walsall, Brighton, Southport Aways: Manchester United, Ipswich, Macclesfield Draws: Oxford, Doncaster, Scunthorpe

☐ Vince Wright

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Evs. NEWCASTLE 9/4 DRAW MONACO 11/5
St. James' Park, Kick off 8.00pm, Live on BBC TV.

CORRECT SCORE

5/1	NEWCASTLE	1-0	5/1	DRAW	1-1
7/1	NEWCASTLE	2-0	18/1	DRAW	2-2
7/1	NEWCASTLE	2-1	7/1	MONACO	1-0
16/1	NEWCASTLE	3-1	11/1	MONACO	2-1

Other scores on request.

FIRST GOALSCORER

4/1	FERDINAND (N)	14/1	GINOLA (N)
11/2	ANDERSON (M)	16/1	GILLESPIE (N)
7/1	IKPEBA (M)	20/1	COLLINS (M)
8/1	BEARDSLEY (N)	25/1	ALBERT (N)

Own goals do not count. Other players on request.

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CRICKET

Australia tighten their grip on Test

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

AUSTRALIA took a stranglehold on the first Test match against South Africa at the Wanderers in Johannesburg yesterday.

After Greg Blewett's double century had set up a record-breaking total of 628 for eight declared, a first-innings lead of 326, Shane Warne struck twice to reduce South Africa to 99 for four at stumps on the penultimate day.

With six second-innings wickets standing, South Africa need a further 228 runs today to make Australia bat again. Jacques Kallis and Jonty Rhodes carry their hopes of saving the game into the final day, when they will face a minimum of 90 overs.

With a full day's play in prospect, Australia will be confident of completing the task and establishing a 1-0 lead in the three-Test series.

The turning point of the South Africa second innings was the dismissal of Andrew Hudson. The right-handed opener, responding belatedly to Kallis's call for a leg bye, was run out at the bowler's end as Steve Waugh, running back from leg slip, threw down the stumps. Until then, Hudson had shown an assured touch for his 31 runs.

Warne, who finished the day with two for 32 from 18 overs, had removed Gary Kirsten for eight, when he induced the left-handed opener to play on. Then, after the run-out of Hudson, Daryll Cullinan was caught behind, without scoring, when playing a loose shot off Warne.

Joining forces at 46 for three, Kallis and Hansie Cronje looked as if they had arrested the slide, batting together for 60 minutes and adding 44 runs. However, Steve Waugh, replacing Warne, completed an outstanding day for the touring side by forcing Cronje to give a leg-side catch to Ian Healy as he nibbled at a delivery drifting away from the right-hander. Thus South Africa had lost four wickets for 63 runs in the final session.

Earlier, Blewett and Waugh had extended their fifth-wicket partnership to a record 385. Resuming the day on 479 for four, Australia lost Waugh in the first session and then Blewett, Healy and Warne after lunch before Mark Taylor closed the innings.

Australia scored at a run a minute after lunch, with Michael Bevan contributing an undefeated 37. Blewett added just one run to his lunch-time score of 213 before top-edging a catch to Paul Adams at third man off Lance Klusener.

Blewett, 25, who scored centuries in his first two Tests against England in the 1994-95 series, batted for 519 minutes, hitting 34 boundaries. Blewett and Waugh's fifth-wicket stand is a record for all countries against South Africa and Australia's total is their highest against South Africa in 60 Tests.

Waugh (160) was caught behind by Dave Richardson to give Kallis his first Test wicket. It was Waugh's twelfth century in 87 Tests and it is the fourth time he has scored 150 or more. His highest is 200, in the 1994-95 series against West Indies in Kingston, the scene of Australia's historic series success in the Caribbean. Waugh batted for 501 minutes and struck 22 boundaries off 366 balls.

☐ Sussex have signed Mark Robinson, the former Northamptonshire and Yorkshire left-arm pace bowler.

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 302 (W J Cronje 76, D J Richardson 72 not out; G D McGrath 4-77).

Second Innings

A C Hudson run out	31
G Kirsten b Warne	8
J H Kallis not out	29
D J Cullinan c Healy b Warne	0
*W J Cronje c Healy b S R Waugh	22
J N Rhodes not out	3
Extras (b 4, lb 2)	6
Total (4 wkts)	99

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38, 2-41, 3-46, 4-90.

BOWLING: McGrath 10-5-17-0; Gillespie 11-4-24-0; Warne 18-9-32-2; Bevan 5-0-16-0, S R Waugh 4-1-4-1.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

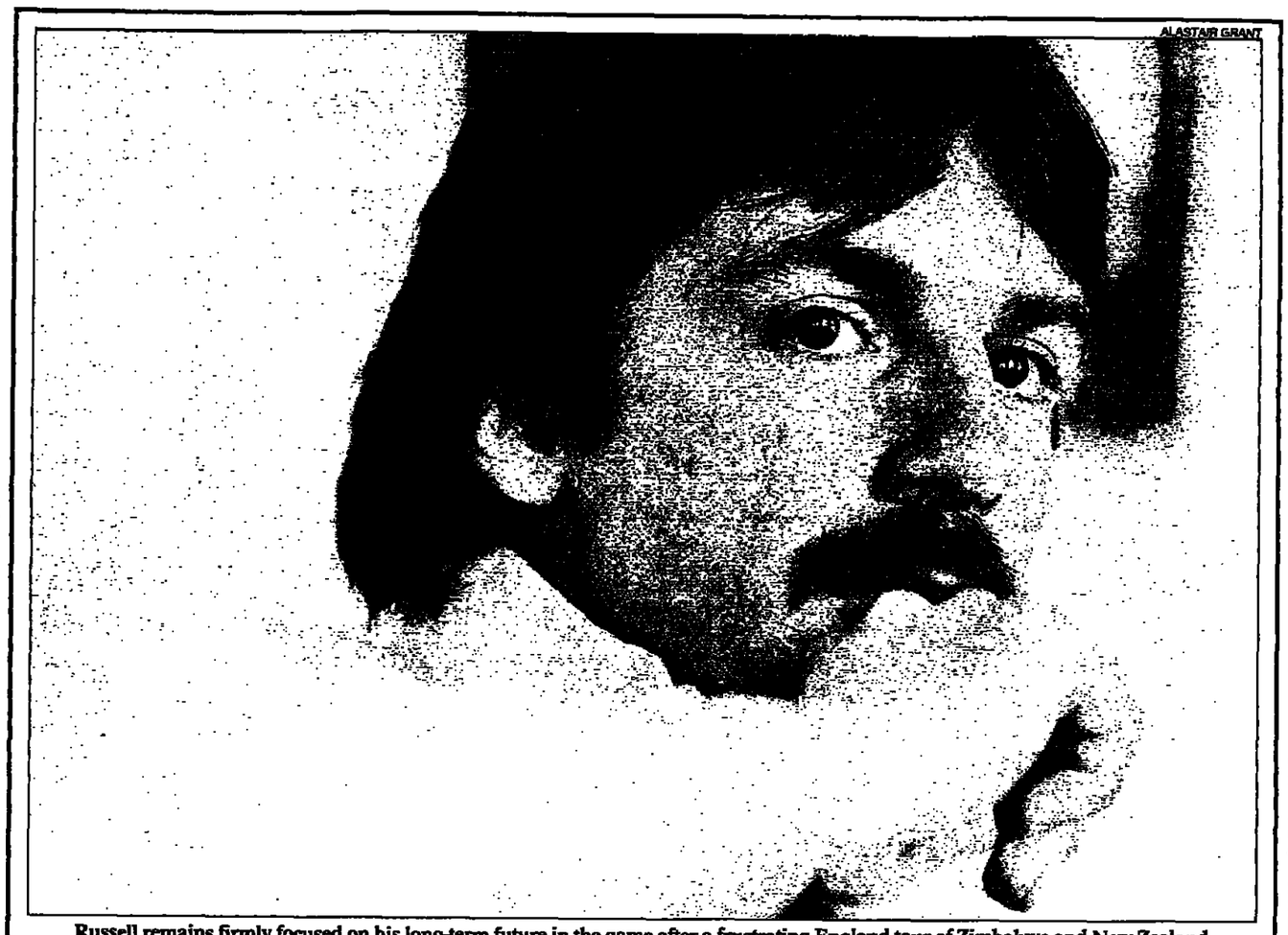
*M A Taylor b Pollock	16
M L Hayden c Cullinan b Pollock	40
M T G Elliott c Adams b Donald	85
M E Waugh c Richardson b Donald	26
S R Waugh c Richardson b Kallis	160
G S Blewett c Adams b Klusener	214
M G Bevan not out	37
†I A Healy c Kirsten b Adams	11
S K Warne b Cronje	9
Extras (b 1, lb 15, w 4, nb 10)	30
Total (8 wkts dec)	628

J N Gillespie and G D McGrath did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-33, 2-128, 3-169, 4-174, 5-559, 6-577, 7-613, 8-628.

BOWLING: Donald 35-7-136-2; Pollock 32-3-105-2, Klusener 37-10-122-1; Kallis 21-4-54-1; Adams 52-7-163-1; Cronje 16 4-5-32-1.

Umpires: C J Mackley (SA) and S Venkataraghavan (India).



ALASTAIR GRANT

Russell remains firmly focused on his long-term future in the game after a frustrating England tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand

Russell adjusts to life with gloves off

Alan Lee meets the wicketkeeper who was forced into international exile after a visit from the England captain

Jack Russell still vividly remembers the day, three months ago in Harare, when he knew he was to be the man that this tour forgot. "There was a knock on my hotel room door," he said. "I looked through the spyhole, saw the captain standing there and knew immediately what he'd come to say."

Throughout his time as an England player, Russell has lived in fear of such deflating calls. He has lost count of the number of occasions on which he has been assured that it is no reflection on his form or ability, simply an unavoidable necessity. Always the same message, always the same feeling of empty desolation once it has been delivered.

This time, he had seen it coming. The team may only have been away for a matter of days, but the talk had reached him that they wanted to play five specialist bowlers in the Test matches. Simple mathematics told him the rest. "I wasn't surprised," he said. "But it still came as a blow, just as it always does."

It has been Russell's misfortune to coincide with the years in which Alec Stewart has honed his wicketkeeping skills to the point where he is now, unarguably, of Test match standard. Consequently, when the balance of the side requires an economy, Russell will always be thought expendable, for no matter how many runs he may make, Stewart is likely to make more.

Nobody pretends it is fair to England's most doughty cricketer of the decade, but few are now prepared to be indignant on Russell's behalf. Michael Atherton, the captain obliged to tell him he faced a barren few months, even identifies the decision as a key to the successes of the winter.

Russell's reaction to his captain's apologetic call was typical of him. "I told him he couldn't expect me to be happy about it because I never would be. I promised him that, on the outside, I would remain bubbly and still offer the same input but, on the inside, I knew it was going to be murder.

"In my situation, you have to keep convincing yourself that things can change or you would just get on the plane and go home. Without the usual touring routine of getting up in the morning and knowing I'm going to play cricket. I've had to look deep inside myself for the drive to keep going.

"I have tried to turn the negatives into positives. I'm still as reclusive as ever but I've made special efforts to be jokey with the boys. People expect me to be miserable and I have fought against that. But it has been the strangest tour I've made and, on a personal level, easily the most disappointing."

> 'On the inside I knew it was going to be murder'

He showed familiar defiance during his solitary first-class match at Wanganui, playing a long, unbeaten innings in a lost cause while less motivated colleagues settled for defeat and early departure in a cavalier way that plainly appalled him.

The worst days have been those on which a Test match has begun. "That period after the toss, when I've finally had to accept I wouldn't be playing, has been awful every time. I have kept out of the way and trained especially hard, just to get the steam out of my system."

Russell, as usual, has sought solace in his painting — his latest commission is a portrait of Dominic Cork — but he has also found it in the unlikelier environment of the gymnasium. "I'd never been in a gym in my life but Dean Riddle, our trainer, has been magnificent. I now feel much fitter and stronger than I've ever done and the up side of this tour is that it might have put five years on my career."

And there is the rub. Far from being disillusioned by this demoralising winter, Russell is setting himself new targets: "I reckon I can play for another ten years if I still have the desire — perhaps another five for England and the rest in county cricket.

"Every time I've been left out, I have asked myself the same question — are you going to fight on or give up? I accept that Test teams are increasingly looking for compromises to improve their balance and that wicketkeepers are inevitably threatened, but the bottom line is that I don't want to finish up stuck on 49 Test caps.

"I'm going to hang on for dear life and I have already made the decision that I would want to tour again, even as the second wicketkeeper. It would be much worse to sit at home, not even being No 2."

Russell, 33, goes home this week for his first view of his fifth child, Katherine, born two days after the tour began. He will also return to hear Gloucestershire trying to persuade him to take on the captaincy again, pleas he is adamant he will resist. "I would like to do the job and it has nothing to do with money or contracts. I have to be up for it, to give the job complete commitment, and there is simply no time to prepare for it the way I would choose.

"I've been sapped inside this winter and I am frightened of losing my zest for the game. I need to go back and have a proper break, something I have never thought about before. I'm not as young as I was and I know now I can't play all day, every day until I'm 50." Well, maybe not quite.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Eagles go to market in new spirit of enterprise

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AFTER the 15 per cent stake bought by Richard Branson in London Broncos and the marketing challenge for the Stones Super League taken up by M & C Saatchi, Sheffield Eagles yesterday entered into the spirit of enterprise sweeping the sport by announcing that the club is to be floated on the stock market.

Buying shares in a favourite club can be a costly business, as investors in Millwall and other football clubs can testify. Sheffield have highlighted Manchester United and Chelsea as examples of the possible rewards available, but have opted for the less risky path of flotation on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM), the Stock Exchange's new public market for small and growing companies.

As 200-1 outsiders for the Super League this season, Sheffield are hoping for more faith from potential investors than the bookmakers. The flotation plan by Paul Thompson, who has bought 31 per cent of the equity in Sheffield from Gary Hetherington, the club's founder, is not his first; he was involved in West Bromwich Albion being floated on the AIM last year.

Like Branson, Thompson, whose company, Sanderson Electronics, sponsors Sheffield Wednesday and Southampton, was attracted into the sport by the £87 million Super League deal. "It has introduced a new and global dimension to a fast, exciting and demanding game," he said. "My involvement will, hopefully, give the Eagles the opportunity to challenge for honours."

However, it is more than financial security that Sheffield are seeking. Since 1984, under Hetherington, now chief executive at Leeds, who has kept a 20 per cent interest in the club, Sheffield have traditionally been bold and progressive. An anticipated move for Tony Smith, the Great Britain scrum half, whom Castleford placed on the transfer list at £150,000 last week, might help to make up some investors' minds.

Oldham were the first rugby league club to go public, five years ago. The Sheffield share price will be watched with great interest by other clubs.

At the official launch in London yesterday of the second Super League season, which starts next week, Colin Myler, chief executive of Rugby League (Europe), the clubs' new marketing arm, said that the sport was on the point of a dynamic and potentially rich future.

The appointment of M & C Saatchi is intended to help to raise the sport's profile. "Last year, Super League was up against the European football championships, and the Olympics, yet attendances reached a 20-year high. It is testimony to the product, but we haven't got it right in the past in terms of marketing and promotion," Myler said.

Instead of the top eight finishers, all 12 Super League sides will compete in the end-of-season Premiership competition in a knock-out format. The final, at Old Trafford, is on September 28, which means the later stages of the world club championship will take place in the first three weekends in October, with the final in Sydney, on October 18.

Wigan are due to announce a final decision tomorrow on the proposed sale of Central Park to the Tesco supermarket chain for £12 million.

Player freedom moves step closer

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE last pretence that modern county cricket can sustain its old values of loyalty and parochialism is set to fall. Discussions this week, involving players' representatives and senior administrators, are likely to hasten radical changes to the restrictions on player movement and open the way to a properly regulated transfer system.

Freedom of movement, with a set scale of compensatory fees, could be adopted as early as next year if agreement is reached between the Professional Cricketers' Association (PCA) and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). It is thought that both sides are prepared to act on the grounds that the present system is no longer practicable, perhaps not even legal.

Two cases this winter have emphasised the problem. Martin Speight successfully appealed against his categorisation as a list one, or contested, signing, before moving from Sussex to Durham, and, potentially more serious, Chris Adams has threatened to take Derbyshire through the courts for their refusal to release him from his contract two years early.

David Graveney, the general secretary of the PCA, was advocating freedom of movement before these disputes and is canvassing the views of his members. "I have no doubt they will be in favour," he said yesterday, "not just for selfish reasons, but because it makes sense.

"If someone was prepared to challenge our current regulations in court, I think they might collapse, and that is in nobody's interest. The Bosman case has had its effect on all sports and the fact that our system has twice been queried during this close-season alone is reason for concern."

Graveney has consulted Gordon Taylor, his football counterpart, and has had provisional talks on the subject with Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, the chairman of the ECB. Tomorrow, he will report to an executive meeting of the PCA which will later be joined, for a general debate, by MacLaurin and Tim Lamb, the board's chief executive. The opportunity will be used to seek a resolution to this issue.

The board has already sought a consensus from the counties on the registration rules and provisional agreement could be established this week on the parameters of any change, including the method of compensating counties that lose players they have raised and coached.

Doug Insole, the chairman of Essex, prepared a paper on the matter in the wake of his county losing Nick Knight to Warwickshire. Sussex, understandably, have stated their support after the loss of playing staff this winter.

"The present regulations hamper a club in Sussex's position," Graveney said. "They have lost five players, without any redress or compensation, and cannot replace them because they are allowed to sign only one list one player in the next five years.

"I know some counties have reservations and fear they would lose all their best players, but I cannot see that happening. A well-regulated system would protect the smaller counties by guaranteeing them payments whenever they lost a player.

Middlesex miss Blewett

BY SIMON WILDE

GREG BLEWETT'S double-century in Johannesburg yesterday may have been cause for celebration in his native Adelaide, but in St John's Wood it has caused only headaches. Middlesex's choice of overseas player this summer is now a racing certainty to be in the Australian touring team.

When the county signed Blewett in the autumn to fill an overseas place vacated with undue haste by the injured Dion Nash last June, he was not in the Australia Test team and appeared to be out of favour with the national selectors. But an injury to Steve Waugh opened the way to a recall in the second Test match against West Indies and Blewett did enough to retain his place for the rest of the series.

Middlesex are understood to have sounded out Michael Slater, who has done little for Australia since scoring a Test double-century against Sri Lanka in Perth 15 months ago, about standing in.

Yorkshire have already abandoned hope of Michael Bevan returning this summer. His all-round success against West Indies has convinced them that he will be needed by his country and intend to sign a replacement before the Australian party is announced at the end of this month.

Hampshire also expect Matthew Hayden, their chosen overseas player, to be taken by Australia and are seeking a stand-by. They may re-sign Heath Streak, the Zimbabwe fast bowler, who played for them in 1995. Essex look like being able to keep Stuart Law, the Queensland player, but if not they may sign Saeed Anwar or Inzamam-ul-Haq.

Philip August, the Gloucestershire chief executive, flies to Australia today to continue discussions with Shaun Young, the Tasmania all-rounder who has been lined up as a replacement for Courtney Walsh.

Roger Binny, who coaches the Karnataka state team that includes most of the India bowling attack, warned yesterday against over-intensive schedules after the withdrawal of Javagal Srinath from his country's tour of West Indies. "Poor planning and punishing schedules are causing premature burn-out," he said.

In the past year Srinath has played at home, in Singapore, Sharjah, England, Sri Lanka, Canada and South Africa.

SPORTS POLITICS

Lottery will help to fund Britain's bids

GREAT Britain's hopes of staging the Olympic Games and World Cup early in the next century were boosted yesterday when a fund was set up to support the holding of leading events (John Goodbody writes).

The National Lottery will provide £3 million a year for the bidding and hosting of world and European championships and also multi-sports events, such as the Commonwealth Games.

However, regular profit-making competitions, such as Wimbledon, will be ineligible and other events will be subjected to a "claw-back" arrangement by the sports councils if a profit is made.

Simon Clegg, the acting general secretary of the British Olympic Association (BOA), said: "This is good news. We are committed to bringing the Games back to Britain and this money could help us in the initial bidding process. It will also help the national governing bodies to bring international championships to this country to show other nations how well we can stage them."

Alec McGivan, director of the World Cup campaign 2006, said: "Bidding for the tournament will cost between £8 million and £10 million over 3½ years and so any money would be welcome.

"There is always some element of risk in applying for events."

SAILING: ADMIRAL'S CUP CAMPAIGN TAKES SHAPE FOR MERRICKS AND WALKER

Britons turn up the heat in Miami

BY EDWARD GORMAN
SAILING CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MERRICKS and Ian Walker have taken another step forward in their preparations for the Mumm 36 class in the Admiral's Cup this summer with a progressive performance at the Southern Ocean Racing Conference (SORC) off Miami Beach last week.

After a reasonable start to their campaign at Key West in January, when the Olympic silver medal-winners in the 470 class opened their Mumm 36 account on *Bradamante* with a joint seventh place overall, they moved up a gear at SORC to finish fourth in an eight-boat fleet.

The competition included some of the leading helmsmen in the class, among them Chris Larson, the American J/24 champion, on *Jameson*. Also competing were Torben Grael, the Brazilian Olympic gold medal-winner in the Star class, on *Bravo*, and Thomas Chieffi, of Italy, at the helm of *Breeze*. There were, however, no New Zealanders, Australians or Germans in the fleet.

The British duo, with Merricks steering, and a crew that included Andy Hemmings as a trimmer and Gerard Mitchell on the mainsail, started well in breezy conditions, recording their first win in a Mumm on the opening day. That came in the second race, after an excellent start that saw *Bradamante* leading round the top mark. Merricks was able to hold on with characteristically good speed on the downwind legs to win from Larson by five lengths.

After a fourth place and a win on day one, they had a second and a third on day two — when tactics and close-quarter boat-handling were at a premium — and were in second place overall. The third day saw a slight drop, with *Bradamante* twice finishing fourth and once fifth, which left Merricks and Walker in third place with one race to sail. They were just 1¼ points adrift of Chieffi, in second, and one point clear of Grael, in fourth. Larson, with three wins and three seconds, had already won the regatta.

In the final race on Sunday, again in big waves and a 20-knot breeze, the Britons finished third, slipping to fourth overall with Chieffi holding on for second and Grael, who won the last race, stealing third. The key moment came at the top of the first beat in a tacking duel with *Breeze* after Merricks had again won the start. Misjudging the timing of a dip behind Chieffi, Merricks had to crash tack and lost ten lengths and broke the top batten in the process.

Nevertheless, Walker was happy enough, despite the disappointing finish. "Our goal was to take a few races off the top boats and soundly beat those mid-fleet boats who beat us in Key West," he said. "We exceeded this and are pleased to be mixing it with the good guys."

BOWLS

Nottingham pair take title at the double

SUE MART and Julie Thomas, of Nottingham, won the English Women's Indoor Bowling Association national pairs title yesterday, beating Jean Smith and Ann Harrison, of Folkestone, 19-15 in the final (David Rhys Jones writes).

While the standard of bowling at York, where the championships are being played, has been remarkable, officials say they have been too preoccupied with keeping to the schedule to enjoy the action on the fast-running greens.

Sharon Rickman, who helped King George Field win the fours title on Saturday, and, with Molly Stopher, reached the semi-final of the pairs yesterday, has qualified for the semi-finals of the Champion of Champions singles event, and is looking forward to competing in the triples today, and the singles later in the week.

Another of yesterday's pairs semi-finalists is causing problems. Kath Strutt, of Egham, who with Barbara Whatford was unlucky to lose to the Nottingham pair on the second extra end of a 4½-hour marathon semi-final, has also qualified for the Champion of Champions and the triples.

With every event programmed to start before the previous one has been completed, players who qualify in more than one discipline are unfairly penalised for their success.

RUGBY UNION

Injuries cast doubt on Wales' bold ambitions

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE England players will not enjoy studying the video of the meeting with France at Twickenham on Saturday. The game demonstrated with painful clarity that, while advances have been made in playing style, the balance in decision-making remains an area of weakness which any streetwise Wales side of former years would look to exploit.

Unfortunately for Wales, who hope to announce a squad of 23 on Thursday to prepare for the meeting with England in Cardiff on March 15, injuries may erode their ambition. Ieuan Evans, Jonathan Davies, Christian Loader and Arwel Thomas are all at various stages of recovery but Craig Quinnell, Gwyn Jones and Andrew Lewis are doubtful, while Mark Rowley, the Pontypridd lock, broke his wrist playing against Swansea



Martin: Richmond-bound

on Sunday and David Young, the Cardiff prop, has an ankle in plaster.

The Wales front five has been the object of criticism for much of the five nations' championship, while England take it to be a point of strength. Yet the English pack must have found it hard to come to terms with what was happening behind them at Twickenham, where an inability to control the game from half back contributed significantly towards France's 23-20 triumph and remains England's Achilles' heel.

There are few options at stand-off half, where England tried Mike Catt before Christmas and Paul Grayson since. Grayson remains the leading candidate, ahead of Alex King and Mark Mapletoft, but he could not exert the same tactical authority as Alain Penaud, nor did England appear to realise that kicking for territory allows the forwards periods of rest; the likes of Martin Johnson and Simon Shaw — both of whom appeared in the midfield during one memorable phase of the game — cannot sustain a running game for 80 minutes as well as tend to their primary chores.

Andy Gomarsall has been given a string of six games in which to gather experience as an international scrum half but, in a demanding role, has not made the advances one expected. He received a first-hand tutorial from Justin Marshall playing against the New Zealand Barbarians last November, but still takes too much on himself and becomes hustled out of his stride; his place must be in grave danger, either from Austin Healey or Kyran Bracken, who is, at the moment, the more rounded player.

Change, Jack Rowell, the coach, hinted at the weekend, may be minimal and is more likely to be postponed until the summer tour to Argentina, when it will be enforced by the absence of the English Lions and of Will Carling, whose understandable desire to take a summer off suggests that Cardiff may be his 72nd and last appearance for England.

But there is no rest for the players: Johnson, for example, must drag his weary limbs into battle for Leicester today, when he captains the side against Sale in a first-division match vital both for Leicester's tilt at the Courage Clubs Championship and for Sale's European aspirations.

Any thoughts that Leicester may have entertained about resting him are put aside by the acknowledged strength of the Sale second row and a knee ligament injury sustained by Matt Poole that will keep him out for a month at least.

The Tigers are still without Dean Richards, Eric Miller and Stuart Potter; Sale, however, are at strength and focused on the league. Saracens, too, seek victory over Bristol in their attempt on a top-four finish, though they are without the injured Francois Pienaar and their three Ireland internationals, the Wallace brothers and Paddy Johns.

Richmond have recruited Rolando Martin, the Argentina flanker, who becomes their twelfth international player. However, he is not available until the summer.

CRAIG JONES/ ALLSPORT



Faldo drives at the 13th during the final round of his impressive three-stroke victory in the Nissan Open

Faldo in fine fettle for Augusta

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THERE was a time when Nick Faldo's golf was labelled boring and mechanical, jibes that the 1996 Masters champion did not particularly take to. But, after his sixth victory in the United States, in the Nissan Open at the Riviera Country Club in Los Angeles on Sunday, Faldo said he was glad to get back to playing the error-free golf for which he was once criticised.

"I was as solid as I've ever been," Faldo said after his first victory since the Masters last year and his first west of the Mississippi. "Technically, it was great to swing the same way from the first hole to the last." That consistency of technique was illustrated by his scores, Faldo being under par for each of his four rounds and dropping strokes on only five of the 72 holes.

Faldo plays well when he is happy, able to concentrate completely on his golf. There were moments last year, his thrilling victory at Augusta and his brave showing at Royal Lytham excepted, when extraneous matters, ranging from the end of his second marriage to leaving the International Management Group and setting up on his own, closed in on him. "I had a lot of things in my life off the golf course that had to be taken care of," Faldo said. "Now everything is sorted out and my priority is golf."

Now that the balance of his life is correct once more, he can consolidate his golf during the build-up to the Masters in a little over a month's time. This victory puts him in a good frame of mind for his defence at Augusta and came on precisely the sort of course where Faldo usually plays well.

Riviera is a classic, old-style course, a thinking man's course, where strategy is at a premium and length is less important than accuracy. It was the eighth time Faldo has played it.

"I think I am the sort of player who has to be inspired," Faldo said. "I think it is everything — the atmosphere, the golf course, the people. I am not someone who can just roll up and play. I need something to get me going and I guess that is why my victories here have been few and far between.

"This is not just another win. Riviera is a great course and I know it was a favourite of Ben Hogan's. It is the kind of course where I was meant to win and I played exactly as I wanted to."

Faldo's victory was a fillip for the European tour in a Ryder Cup year. The success by Richard Green, of Australia, in the Dubai Desert Classic on Sunday was the fifth victory by a non-European in the six events so far on the 1997 European tour. It is good to know Europeans are playing well; even better when they are playing well and winning in the United States, which is still the most exacting tour of all.

This week, Faldo moves from California to Florida for the Doral Ryder Open, an event that he won two years ago. Colin Montgomerie, equal sixth in Dubai, joins the British challenge, but Ian Woosnam, involved in the play-off with Green, takes a week off before the Masters countdown.

RADIO CHOICE

A nose for a good yarn

The Curves of Clio: Churchill's Nose. *Radio 3, 8.20pm.*

As David Pownall's playlet is about noses, I can best describe it by saying that, compared with any other humorous writing on BBC radio this week, it is a veritable Cyrano de Bergerac proboscis of a comedy. We are asked to imagine that Churchill (Timothy West) is taking a week's lessons in colour and composition from Salvador Dali (Trader Faulkner). The result: a charcoal drawing of a hooter which the outrageous Catalonian surrealistically hails as a message to Western civilisation — better than anything Goya or Rubens could have produced. After that, it takes no more than a sneeze before Winnie is listening to a hillock-sized plaster model of his olfactory organ sniffing away to the strains of *The Blue Danube*.

The Prohibition Years. *Radio 2, 10.00pm.*

We all but see Cagney and Bogart as the rattle of gangsters' sub-machine guns heralds the last part of George Melly's unmissable series about the United States' no-alcohol era. Popular historian Melly shakes a cocktail of words and music with the sort of skill perfected by those Chicago bartenders who were put out of (legal) business during the 14 years Prohibition lasted. He recalls one bootlegging trial in San Francisco that had to be abandoned when it emerged that the jury had drunk all the evidence. Luckily, hit songs were not prohibited, too. We hear a handful of them tonight, including *Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?*

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe with the Breakfast Show live from Manchester **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley, includes at **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Kevin Greening **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session with Steve Lamacq **8.30** John Peel **10.30** Mary Ann Hobbs **1.00am** Claire Sturgess **4.00** Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Lester **7.30** Sarah Kennedy **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** Chris Serle **7.00** Hayes over Britain **8.30** A Town Like Alice. Neal Shute's classic tale dramatised by Moya Shea (5/5) **9.00** A Fistful of Dynamite **10.00** The Prohibition Years See Choice **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, includes Racing Preview **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.05pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.35** The Tuesday match Newcastle United v AS Monaco in the first leg of the Uefa Cup quarter-final **10.00** News Talk with Nigel Cassidy **11.00** News Extra with Valerie Sanderson **12.05am** After Hours with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT** News on the hour **5.30am** Europe Today **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** Portrait of the Artist **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** A History of British Theatre **8.45** Good Books **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Just a Minute **9.45** Sport **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.30** Meridian Feature **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Letters Home **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack **3.05** Sport **3.15** What's News **3.30** The Missionaries **4.15** World Today **4.30** BBC English **4.45** Britain Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.30** Letters Home **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Megamix **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian Feature **10.30** World Today **10.45** Sport **11.10** Vocebox **11.15** What's News **11.30** Megamix **12.30am** Folk Routes **12.45** Britain Today **1.30** Outlook **1.55** Words of Faith **2.30** Composer of the Month **3.15** Sport **3.30** Meridian On Screen **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Alan Mann **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto Vieuxtemps (Cello Concerto No 2 in B minor, Op 50) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Classic Newsnight **7.30** Sonata. Leclair (String Sonata No 1 in D minor, Op 4) **8.00** Evening Concert. Handel (Ballet Music: Terpsichore); Verdi (Macbeth Ballet Music); William Walton (Façade, Two Suites for Orchestra); Leonard Bernstein (On the Town, 3 Dance Episodes) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyle (FM) Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Penny Gore. Includes Ravel (La Valse); Telemann (Sonata in F for Two Chalumeaux); Mendelssohn (Konzertstuck in F for Clarinet and Basset Horn); Parry (Violin Sonata in D). Marschner (Die Sieben Freier); Vivaldi (Overture: Giustino); Saint-Saëns (Piano Concerto No 2 in G minor)

9.00 Morning Collection. Includes Telemann (Suite: don Quichotte); Mozart (Variations on Unser Dummer Pobel Meint); Walton (Suite: Henry V, excerpts)

10.00 Musical Encounters. Introduced by Chris Wines. Includes Bach (Sonata in G); Honegger (Prelude, Arioso and Fugue on Bach); Sibelius (Songs, Op 13); Barber (Piano Sonata); Brahms (Cello sonata No 1 in E minor, Op 38); Honegger (Symphony No 2)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Anton Webern

12.40pm Beethoven Variations. Six Variations on an Original Theme in F, Op 34 Olli Mustonen, piano.

1.00 La Stagione, Frankfurt. A concert given by the German Period Instrument Orchestra at last year's Lake Constance Festival. Includes Haydn (Symphony No 47 in G; Cello Concerto No 1 in C)

2.35 Ensemble. Penny Gore introduces a recital by Piers Lane, piano. Including Schumann (Fantasiestucke, Op 12); D'Albert (Four Pieces, Op 5, excerpts) (r)

3.15 The BBC Orchestras. The BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Mark Wigglesworth. Beethoven (Piano Sonata in C minor, Op 111); Mahler: compl Cooke (Symphony No 10)

5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson

5.15 In Tune, with Mairi Nicholson. Includes Wagner (Overture Das Liebesverbot); Beethoven (Variations on Dittersdorf's Es War Einmal); Mussorgsky, arr Stokowski (A Night on the Bare Mountain)

7.30 Pebble Mill. Introduced by Chris Wines, live from Studio One in Birmingham. With Patricia Rozario, soprano, Jonathan Rees, Jessica O'Leary, Hilary-Jane Parker and Nancy Elan, violins Schubert (Violin Sonata in A); Ligeti (Trio, 1982) **8.20** The Curves of Clio See Choice **8.40** Concert part 2. Berg (Piano Sonata); Brahms (Trio in E flat, Op 40)

9.30 Little England, Big World. Alistair Beaton presents the international satirical magazine. With guests Jo Brand and the poet Mark Kelly and contributors from the USA and Russia (2/5).

9.50 Steps in Time. Diaghilev's Russian Ballet. Sir John Drummond introduces music asscociated with Diaghilev's ballets. BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry Wordsworth. Rimsky-Korsakov (Scheherazade) (1/5)

10.45 Night Waves. A look at the work of William Hogarth

11.30 Composer of the Week: Koechlin (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather

1.00am Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, includes Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross

10.00 News; Novel America (FM). Martin Wainwright encounters the continent for the first time. This week he visits the Chippewa Indians of northern Minnesota

10.00 Daily Service (LW)

10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour. Presented by Jenni Murray

11.30 Medicine Now. Geoff Watts reports on the state of medical care

12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Lesley Riddoch

12.25pm Booked! An unusual look at literature, chaired by Ian McMillan. With guests Dillie Keane, Miles Kington, Roger McGough and Mark Thomas **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Imagine an Onion. John Baxter presents a look inside the controversial new French National Library in Paris

2.30 But I Know What I Like. The pianist David Owen Norris talks to and accompanies hurdy-gurdy player Nigel Eston (4/6)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan. With weekly guest the architect Maxwell Hutchinson

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan reads a new novel by Rose Tremain *Human Croquet* is about the world seen through the eyes of an eccentric suburban family

4.45 Short Story: The Gift, by Trevor Colman. Read by David Bannerman

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 A Square of One's Own, by Ivan Shakespeare. With Matthew Bell and Joanna Brookes (r) (3/4)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on Four. Last in the series with Jenny Cuffe

8.00 Science Now. A weekly review of scientific news with Alun Lewis (r)

8.30 The Reith Lectures. Professor Patricia J. Williams discusses racial colour blindness (2/5)

9.00 In Touch, with Peter White

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Great Railway Bazaar, by Paul Theroux. Read by William Hurt (7/10) (r)

11.00 Mediumwave. Vincent Hanna presents a review of the week's media news (r)

11.30 Word of Mouth (FM). Russell Davies explores words and the way we speak (3/6) (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)

12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather

12.30am The Late Book: The Hobbit, by J.R.R. Tolkien Read by Michael Hordern (r) (2/15)

12.48 Shipping Forecast

1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

SNOOKER: SCOT CLAIMS EUROPEAN CROWN DESPITE SWITCHING TO NEW CUE

Higgins changes for the better

FROM PHIL YATES
IN VALLETTA

IT IS a measure of John Higgins's temperament, single-minded attitude and competitive spirit that he became European Open champion despite using a cue to which he is not completely accustomed.

Seven weeks ago, when his original cue became unusable, worn out through general wear and tear, Higgins took the decision to employ a replacement, hoping that, by the time of the Embassy world championship in late April, he would feel comfortable enough to mount a realistic challenge. He did not have to wait that long to learn that he and it could be successful.

"I am still not 100 per cent happy with it, but perhaps after this I'm being a shade pessimistic," Higgins said after beating John Parrott, the title-holder, 9-5 in the final and eroding the gap between himself and Stephen Hendry at the head of the provisional world rankings. "This result is a real boost to my confidence and winning a tournament right now is a real bonus. Your cue can become a bit like your right arm and when, for whatever reason, you've suddenly got to change, you must expect some setbacks."



Higgins: determined

Indeed, the history of professional snooker has been littered with examples of fine players who have struggled to adjust to new equipment, yet Higgins showed no sign of suffering a similar difficulty. He could not have wished for a better start, conceding only 41 points in forging a 5-0 lead as runs of 59, 52, 100, 71 and 61 enabled him to restrict Parrott's time at the table severely.

From 6-2 up after the first session, he was pegged back to 7-5, but Parrott squandered an opportunity to steal the thirteenth frame when jawing what he later described as "an unmissable blue" to a middle pocket and, afforded breathing space, Higgins won the next frame, and with it the match, in convincing fashion.

Higgins has now been successful in six ranking competitions since breaking through by prevailing at the 1994 Skoda Grand Prix. Only Hendry, with 23 triumphs, and Parrott, successful eight times, have won more world-ranking events during the 1990s than the Scot, who did not play his first professional match until the summer of 1992.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	35	160	fair	varied	slushy	sun	9	15/2
(Still good skiing available; warm sunshine)								
AUSTRIA								
Mayrhofen	65	70	good	varied	closed	fine	3	27/2
(Upper slopes good, slushy lower down)								
Obergurgl	40	160	good	varied	good	fair	7	27/2
(Piste skiing still good despite mild weather)								
Söll	15	65	fair	heavy	slushy	cloud	5	27/2
(Some pistes becoming worn, best at altitude)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	110	260	slushy	varied	slush	sun	0	27/2
(Warm weather and plenty of slush; best at altitude)								
Avoriaz	150	170	good	heavy	slushy	fine	3	27/2
(Slushy conditions but still good fun)								
La Plagne	140	225	good	varied	fair	sun	3	27/2
(Plenty of good snow available: low/south slopes worn)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	90	350	good	heavy	slushy	sun	5	27/2
(Lowest pistes softening, good at altitude)								
Livigno	90	190	good	heavy	fair	fine	3	27/2
(Lowest pistes wearing, otherwise mostly good)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	25	300	good	heavy	slush	fine	8	27/2
(High temperatures leading to heavy conditions)								
Verbier	35	190	good	spring	slush	sun	3	27/2
(Upper slopes good, slush low down; no queues)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 46

AFANC

(c) An aquatic monster in Celtic mythology. It seems likely that the original sense in Welsh and Irish was river animal, which by extension came also to mean "water sprite". The Welsh word also means a beaver. "I hope no one revives the afanc which used to emerge from a lake near my house in Cardiganshire to devour cattle."

FU-FU

(a) A kind of dough made out of plantains: a traditional food of Negroes on both sides of the Atlantic. Of West African origin, recorded in Twi, Ewe, Wolof. "The Shepherd's Bush market has a shop devoted wholly to West African foods like garden eggs and fu-fu, edwene and dried snails."

BURRAWANG

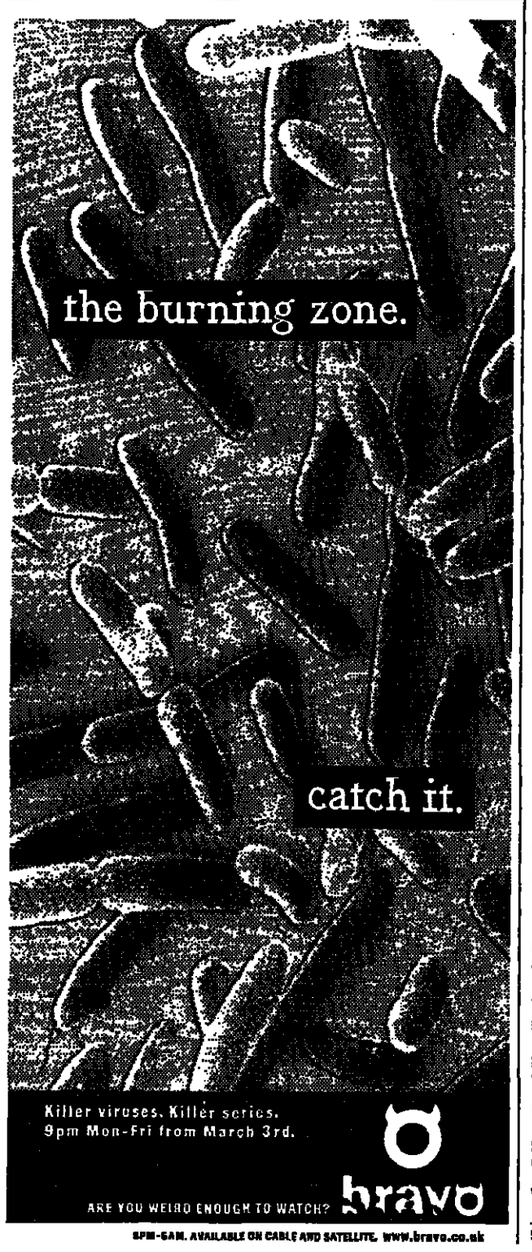
(c) An Australian palm-like tree, *Macrozamia spiralis*. Also the nut produced by this tree. A lisping toponym from the name of Mount *Budawang* in New South Wales. "The burrawang is another slow grower. Burrawang Nut is so called because they used to be, and are to some extent now, very common about Burrawang, NSW."

FERAE NATURAE

(c) Animals living in a wild state, undomesticated animals. From the Latin for "belonging to the wild part of nature". Dryden, 1668: "Women are not compris'd in our Laws of friendship: they are ferae naturae."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rxd7! Rxd7 2 f4+ Kd6 3 e5 checkmate



The guilty, the brazen and the unscrupulous

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

It's amazing how a few good names attached to a drama can soothe one's anxieties about it. Watching the credits for last night's returning first episode of **Kavanagh QC** (ITV) — writer Charles Wood, director Jack Gold — was like being a diagram of a tickly throat in a Veno's commercial, subdued and pacified by the thick, gooey reassurance of Proven Quality. The casting served the same doubt-assuaging purpose — John Wood as a forgetful judge; Richard Pasco as a disillusioned vicar; Angela Down and Barrie Rutter in minor parts. All fans of the previous series thinking "Where's Anna Chancellor?" could soon banish all thoughts of that lovely amazon in her little wig. As for John Thaw, with his silvery locks and northern vowels — well, let's say both are growing on him.

The interesting plot concerned Edgar, a military padre (Andrew Woodall), pleading guilty to his brother's murder, in a wood, with a rifle. But it was clear from all the ghastly flashbacks that agonised him — featuring a pit of massacred bodies in Bosnia — that he merely sought punishment for a bigger sense of guilt. Edgar had become mute after the shooting: he was now reading Pat Barker's novels about First World War psychological trauma. Hired to defend him, Kavanagh frowned in puzzlement and displayed that snowy hair to great effect, but was not required to attempt death-defying leaps of logic to save the day. Instead, the defence was rescued by the discovery of an unequivocal suicide note from the brother. Hoorah.

The two interesting aspects to this story were the novelty of the non-speaking defendant and the literary clue of the novel *Regeneration* — which was shown in close-up, three times, in case we missed it. Woodall pulled a wide array of different faces during his interrogations, but cleverly maintained a lot of dignity throughout. As for the Pat Barker book, I think its presence was mainly Charles Wood acknowledging the source of his inspiration, while perhaps encouraging the ITV audience to *read better books*. It was not really a clue, or anything. And thank goodness only Edgar read it, anyway. The traumatised mute in *Regeneration* is strapped to a chair and tortured with electrodes.

Conscience was the theme of the night. Edgar had a very uneasy conscience, you see. On the other hand, Gary Sparrow in the new series of *Goodnight Sweetheart* was noticeably unstung by finer feelings (as usual), while **World in Action** (ITV) brought exceptionally bad news about the state of the country's honesty. Called "Many Behaving Badly", it conducted a number of entrapment experiments with free £10 notes (and a long-distance lens) to show that most people in Britain, offered free dosh from virtually any source, will take the money and run like billy-o.

Money was dropped in open envelopes on the ground. Money came out of cash machines. It arrived in the post; it was given in miscalculated change. In all these situations, most people were happy to keep it. In Toxteth, a stamped, addressed envelope was dropped on the ground with a £5 note protruding, and one person who picked it up even tore off the stamp before throwing the envelope away. It was one of those programmes you have to watch with a bottle of whisky in one hand and a pearl-handled revolver in the other, waiting for the right moment to shoot yourself.

But it was excellent entertainment, and kept bringing to mind those chimp-and-grape experiments we used to see in the old days on Desmond Morris's *Zoo Time*. Once a man with no conscience discovers he can get free £10 notes from a cash machine, he lurks around it all day, trying his luck. If he were Bobo with a grape-feeder ("There he goes again!"), we would applaud him. What *World in Action* discovered was that people are happier to steal from big anonymous banks than from small, friendly shopkeepers. Meagre though it is, this was the only good news.

Finally, the return of BBC1's **Goodnight Sweetheart** without either of the two original female leads was a bit of a blow, especially for somebody who secretly thought Nicholas Lyndhurst was the weak link. Perhaps this was prejudice, however. First, I have never understood how we were supposed to sympathise with a wartime lothario who looked like Hitler. And as for the smug, selfish, Gary, I have never understood how we were supposed to sympathise with him at all.

Looking on the bright side, both Emma Amos and Elizabeth Carling are easily competent for the parts of Yvonne and Phoebe — and if that depressingly highlights the simplicity of those characters, that's just the way it is. People see all sorts of reassuring themes in *Goodnight Sweetheart*, which is its genius. But its male dream of pre-feminist womanhood is just creepy. In his moderri persona, Gary is an abject failure plagued by an ambitious harridan; but when he assumes his spooky Führer disguise, he is rich, admired, and loved by a submissive, pretty woman with a handsome cleavage. How he manages to look so sour in these circumstances is the biggest mystery of all.

The clever thing about *Goodnight Sweetheart* is the absence of dramatic tension, which means it can go on for ever. Will the heinous Gary one day be found out? The answer is surely no. For one thing, the two female characters simply could not stand the strain of discovery, and besides, this is not a moral tale about deceit and its consequences. So Yvonne and Phoebe will remain in the dark — a place where, conveniently, women are said to be all alike in any case.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (33891) **7.00** BBC Breakfast News (T) (45549) **9.00** Breakfast News Extra (T) (5447094)
9.20 Style Challenge (4794471)
9.45 Kilroy (4474636)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (97839)
11.00 News (T) and weather (6490433)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (7002162)
11.35 Change That (8687094)
12.00 News (T) and weather (7544162)
12.05pm The Alphabet Game (5585365)
12.30 Going for a Song (6855433)
12.55 The Weather Show (79926297)
1.00 News (T) and weather (48636) **1.30** Regional news and weather (83696742)
1.40 Neighbours (T) (11990549)
2.05 Snowy River: The McGregor Saga (5332549)
2.50 As Time Goes By Comedy with Judi Dench and Geoffrey Palmer (r) (T) (5219100)
3.20 Noble Castles Roy Noble visits Harlech Castle (6555079)
3.30 Playdays (r) (5452278) **3.50** Casper Classics (r) (6817907) **3.55** Hububb (8320986) **4.10** Prince of Atlantis (T) (1451568) **4.35** The Mask (T) (5499655) **5.00** Newsround (T) (3839758) **5.10** Grange Hill (T) (4618159)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (221365)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (T) and weather (471)
6.30 Newsroom South East (723)
7.00 Holiday Jill Dando visits Gran Canaria, Oz Clarke checks out San Diego and Monty Don reports from Aigua Blava on Spain's Costa Brava. Plus, Sankha Guha visits Dublin and stays in the hotel owned by rock band U2 and John Holdsworth samples a weekend break in Herefordshire (T) (8742)
7.30 EastEnders Peggy continues to make life difficult for Lorraine and Nigel is the bearer of bad tidings for Pauline (T) (907)
8.00 Sportsnight Special Desmond Lynam introduces live coverage from St James' Park of Newcastle's Uefa Cup quarter-final, first-leg game against the current French first division leaders, Monaco. The commentators are John Motson and David Pleat with analysis from Trevor Brooking and Alan Hansen (29376617)
9.55 News (T), regional news and weather (418891)
10.25 Inside Story: A Deadly Secret The tragic plight of a woman whose boyfriend knowingly infected her with HIV (151452) **WALES:** PPB (Plaid Cymru) **10.30** Week in Week Out **11.00** Inside Story **11.50** FILM: Juggernaut **1.35am-2.50** FILM: The She Creature
11.20 Juggernaut (1974) with Richard Harris, Anthony Hopkins, Ian Holm, Omar Sharif and David Hemmings. A transatlantic liner and its 1,200 passengers are threatened by a ruthless bomber. Directed by Richard Lester (309988)
1.00am The She Creature (1954, b/w) A chiller about a hypnotist who summons a murderous prehistoric monster from its hiding place. With Chester Morris, directed by Edward L. Cahn (2413143)
2.15 Weather (8523124)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
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BBC2

6.00am Open University (7473094) **6.25** English, Whose English? (7565029) **6.50** Language and Literature (9397758) **7.15** News (T) **7.30** Captain Caveman (8140891) **7.55** Blue Peter (r) (T) (3520365) **8.20** Johnson and Friends (7919742) **8.35** The Record (5113549) **9.00** Standard Grade Modern Studies (5445636) **9.20** The History Collection (4792013) **9.45** Watch (7238907) **10.00** Playdays (90159) **10.30** Come Outside (7252452) **10.45** Science Zone (2558100) **11.05** Space Ark (6411926) **11.15** Le Club (9347471) **11.30** Shakespeare (T) (4384) **12.00** See Hear! (r) (79433) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (52425) **1.00** Teaching Today (46278) **1.30** Showcase (83694384) **1.40** Hotch Potch House (28586433) **2.00** Johnson and Friends (36205520) **2.10** Everyone's Got One (2484013) **3.00** News (T) **3.05** Westminster (4113568) **3.55** News (T) **4.00** Today's the Day (636) **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (520) **5.00** Esther (6520)
5.30 Seniors Pot Black Ray Reardon v Willie Thorne (100)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (r)
6.25 Heartbreak High (241926)
7.10 The O Zone (r) (482742)
7.25 Della's Red Nose Collection (T) (827891)
7.30 From the Edge Disabled mothers with disabled daughters celebrate their relationship (549)



Juliet turns detective (8pm)

8.00 The House Detectives First of a six-part series investigating the histories of distinguished houses around Britain hosted by Juliet Morris (T) (2704)
8.30 Food and Drink Michael Barry prepares teriyaki and Antonio Carluccio prepares a *sumptuous meal for a thousand people* at last year's Three Tenors concert (1839)
9.00 Timewatch: Before Columbus An investigation into whether Christopher Columbus was the first European to discover the New World (T) (198297)
9.50 Before I Die A man with a collapsed lung was told he had only nine months to live but with the help of trial drugs and complementary medicine managed to survive for an extra five years (358079)
10.00 Have I Got Old News for You (r) (70162) **10.30** Newsnight (T) (569617) **11.15** Face to Face: Paul Eddington (r) (894075) **12.00** The Midnight Hour (70853)
12.30am The Learning Zone: Open University: Environmental Control in the North Sea (58476) **1.00** Living with Technology (96872) **2.00** Nightschool TV: PSHE - GNVQ (55698) **4.00** BBC Focus: Teaching and Learning with IT (14786) **4.30** Film Education (43105) **5.00** Inside Europe (29037) **5.30** Film Education (20312)

CHOICE

The House Detectives
BBC2, 8.00pm

Juliet Morris, chirpier than in her newsreader role, hosts a series dedicated to the proposition that every house tells a story. Each week experts in landscape, architecture and interior design descend upon a dwelling and explore its style, origins and owners. To an extent the programme is self-fulfilling, because the houses have obviously been chosen for being unusual in the first place. Do not expect the detectives to be let loose on the average suburban semi. The series kicks off with Fayre Haven, an eccentric turn-of-the-century villa in Preston. As the builder-owner was a prominent local figure, and therefore easy to track down, the sleuths barely have to break sweat. But the detail of the house is absorbing and so is its social context, of a self-made businessman wanting to advertise his new wealth.

Timewatch: Before Columbus
BBC2, 9.00pm

Every schoolchild knows, or ought to, that Columbus did not discover America but around those who went before him there are still huge grey areas. One of the more intriguing legends is that a Welsh prince called Madoc sailed to America in 1170, more than 300 years before Columbus, and has an Indian tribe descended from him. The story is that Madoc and his followers settled with the Mandans of North Dakota. The evidence has always been scanty but this has not deterred a pair of amateur historians from Swansea, Tony and Cath Williams. The film follows their journey to the United States and a reciprocal trip to Anglesey by a current member of the Mandan tribe, Harry Sitting Bear. Do not expect a television film to upstage centuries of research, but it does offer some fascinating pointers.

Inside Story: A Deadly Secret
BBC1, 10.25pm (N.I. and Scotland 10.55pm; Wales 11.00pm)

When Jan Ruston's marriage broke up after 20 years she decided to start a new life in Cyprus, where she had a holiday home. There she met and fell in love with Pavlos, a local fisherman. But this *Shirley Valentine* story was not to have a happy ending. Unknown to Ruston, Pavlos was HIV positive. He passed the disease to her and she developed Aids. We meet her back in England, in and out of hospital and under the constant care of her parents. Her cousin, Sharon, is determined that Pavlos shall pay for his behaviour. She takes the case up with her MP, Sir Teddy Taylor, and travels to Cyprus in the hope of invoking a law against *knowingly transmitting a dangerous* disease. Carrie Britton's film handles a distressing story with tact and sympathy.

Clive James Meets Damon Hill
ITV, 10.40pm

Damon Hill's Formula One triumph becomes even more impressive when you discover that for two vital weeks of the season he had the tubby, balding Australian on his tail. Everywhere that Hill went Clive James was sure to go, except for the races. The scenario is that Hill is (a) on the brink of a world title and (b) about to be dumped by his Williams team. James pads around at the great man's elbow, looking for material to spark his quips. Hitching a lift, James discovers that even on the public road Hill is a fast driver. "I wasn't scared once", jokes our host, "I was scared 274 separate times." Despite James's ample presence this is still Hill's show, and a revealing glimpse into a highly-paid but frenetic life. The demands of media and sponsors are relentless but to Hill's huge credit he is never ruffled and always courteous.

Peter Waymark

HTV

6.00am GMTV (6841810)
9.25 Chain Letters (4779162)
9.55 Regional News (T)(5578549)
10.00 The Time, the Place (27655)
10.30 This Morning (T) (20642618)
12.20pm HTV News and Weather (7559094)
12.30 News (T) and weather (6953029)
12.54 HTV Crimestoppers (79912094) **12.55** Shortland Street (6858520) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (47790636) **1.50** Afternoon Live (11998181) **2.20** Vanessa (T) (56957988) **2.50** Afternoon Live (5211568)
3.20 News (T) (2955015)
3.25 Regional News (T) (3305556)
3.30 Potamus Park (1115605) **3.40** Wizadora (r) (9914278) **3.50** Bimble's Bucket (T) (9903162) **4.00** Scooby Doo (2726907) **4.15** Hey Arnold! (1445907) **4.40** Frighteners (4381742)
5.10 Getaways (r) (T) (5628723)
5.40 News (T) and weather (497471)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (455278)
6.25 HTV Weather (794704)
6.30 HTV News (704181)
7.00 Emmerdale Robert and Andy's grim discovery in the quarry has far-reaching consequences (T) (3810)
7.30 The Learning Curve The first of six-part series focussing on West Country schools and colleges (425)
8.00 The Bill Greig is puzzled when a man confesses to a burglary he could not have committed (T) (2758)
8.30 Pet Power In the last programme of the series, Anthea Turner meets a border collie who saved his family from a fire and a canine customs officer, and checks on the progress of Popeye, the woman-hating parrot (T) (8365)
9.00 Peak Practice Andrew and Erica struggle to find the real cause of a child's constant medical problems — perhaps his mother's lonely cry for help is a clue? (T) (4891)
10.00 News (T) and weather (74988)
10.30 Regional News (T) (976013)



Hill and James (10.40pm)

10.40 CHOICE Clive James Meets Damon Hill Clive accompanies the Formula One driver for two weeks during last year's season which saw him become world champion and loose his place on the Williams team (T) (646986)
11.40 Highlander (251346)
12.35am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (5963698)
1.05 Ed's Night Party (7888560) **1.30 Stand and Deliver** (78211) **2.30 The Chart Show** (r) (4946853) **3.25 Coach** (r) (38852360)
3.50 Football Extra (r) (5180245) **4.30 The Time, the Place** (r) (70259) **5.00 The Village Show** (r) (16563) **5.30 News** (20358)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (6858520)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5628723)
6.25-7.00 Central News (599075)
7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (425)
11.40 Central Sports Special (993810)
12.40am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (4136037)
1.15 Film: She Said No (891563)
2.55 In Focus (7413211)
3.40 Central Jobfinder '97 (175679)
5.20 Asian Eye (8450495)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 Wish You Were Here? (6858520)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (5628723)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (91320)
7.30-8.00 Jack Pizzey's Coastline (425)
3.55am Football Extra (8589874)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (5628723)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (839)
6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs (891)
7.30-8.00 Serve You Right Live (425)
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (251346)
3.55am Football Extra (8589874)
5.00 Freescreen (16563)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (6858520)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (5628723)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (599075)
7.30-8.00 Nurses (425)
11.40 Swift Justice (251346)
3.55am Football Extra (8589874)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (39029)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (34487)
9.00 Bewitched (84365)
9.30 Ysgolion (983075)
12.00 House to House (77029)
12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (24471)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (53633159)
1.25 Film: Father Brown (94650891)
3.00 Collectors' Lot (9471)
3.30 Montel Williams (297)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (704)
4.30 TV Dinners (988)
5.00 5 Pump (8988)
5.30 Countdown (568)
6.00 Newyddion (430094)
6.05 Heno (466384)
6.35 Jacpot (701094)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (192617)
7.25 Dudley (627742)
8.00 Pacio (7100)
8.30 Darllediad Gwleidyddol Gan Blaid Cymru (748385)
8.35 Newyddion (590655)
9.05 Cutting Edge: Secondary Best (490574)
10.05 Brookside (970029)
10.40 Dark Skies (116015)
11.35 Seriously Funny (992181)
12.35am Hill Street Blues (5289563)
1.30 For the Love Of (908582)
4.00 Ysgolion (1509124)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (39029) **7.00** The Big Breakfast (34487) **9.00** Bewitched (r) (T) (84365)
9.30 Schools (983075)
12.00 House to House (77029) **12.30pm** Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (24471) **1.00** Cybill (r) (T) (53633159) **1.25** Mute (59628758)
1.40 Whirlpool (1949, b/w) with Gene Tierney and Jose Ferrer. A drama about a female FILM thief who is drawn by a hypnotist into a plot to murder his former mistress. Directed by Otto Preminger (T) (55817988)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (297) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (704) **4.30** Countdown (T) (988) **5.00** Ricki Lake (T) (8988) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (568)
6.00 Friends: The One with the East German Laundry Detergent As Phoebe and Chandler end their respective romantic relationships, Ross and Rachel spend their first date doing the laundry together (r) (T) (446520)
6.25 Ant and Dec Unzipped The guests include Eamon Holmes and Terry Christian (461839)
6.55 Fresh Pop (594926)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (718433)
7.55 Winners and Losers (621839)
8.00 Wings: Bird Futures The last programme of the series examines hopes and concerns for the future of Britain's bird population (T) (7100)
8.30 Brookside Jimmy and Jackie are at cross-purposes (T) (6907)



Howard Jacobson (9pm)

9.00 Seriously Funny The final part of Howard Jacobson's comic odyssey focuses on humour surrounding death with contributions from Bernard Manning and clips from *Fawlty Towers* and *Absolutely Fabulous* (T) (2433)
10.00 Baby Snatcher (1994) with Veronica FILM Hamel and Nancy McKeon. A fact-based thriller about a woman who fakes a pregnancy and abducts another woman's baby. Directed by Joyce Chopra (T) (987520)
11.45 Film Night Cinema magazine presented by Janice Forsyth (793907)
12.25am Fixed Bayonets (1951) with Richard FILM Basehart. A Korean War drama directed by Sam Fuller (730292)
2.05 Forty Guns (1957) with Barry Sullivan FILM and Barbara Stanwyck. A western drama about a lawman who crosses the path of an autocratic rancher. Directed by Samuel Fuller (1129327)
3.30 A Night with a Woman, a Day with Charlie A comedy drama directed by Harry Bradbeer (r) (28989)
4.00 Schools (1509124)
5.10 Almost Complete History of the 20th Century (r) (T) (1301698)
5.30 Backdate (r) (T) (90940)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (306297) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (86902) **10.00** Another World (75758) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (82094) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (58452) **1.00pm** Geraldo (67100) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (48162) **3.00** Jenny Jones (74926) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (53433) **5.00** Star Trek: Next Generation (5487) **6.00** Real TV (5548) **6.30** Married — with Children (2023) **7.00** The Simpsons (9948) **7.30** M*A*S*H (8013) **8.00** *Police Stop!* (9638) **8.30** Real TV UK (1471) **9.00** Picket Fences (93549) **10.00** Unsolved Mysteries (96836) **11.00** Selina Scott Tonight (54162) **11.30** Star Trek: Next Generation (64487) **12.30am** LAPD (48788) **1.00** Hit Mix (1122501)

SKY 2

7.00pm Hercules: The Legendary Journeys (6154433) **8.00** Xena, Warrior Princess (6163181) **9.00** Pacific Blue (6150617) **10.00** Models Inc (6153704) **11.00** Late Show (5784907) **12.00** Hit Mix (9657747).

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

6.00am The Borrowers (1973) (94276) **8.00 Silver Streak** (1976) (62742) **10.00 Fanny** (1961) (19007839) **12.15pm A Mother's Story** (1982) (5922278) **2.00 My Father, the Hero** (1994) (87988) **4.00 A Flea in Her Ear** (1968) (7891) **6.00 Car 54, Where Are You?** (1994) (80452) **8.00 Airheads** (1994) (16887) **10.00 First Light** (1989) (534452) **11.45 Fatherland** (1994) (496013) **1.40am Come Die with Me** (1994) (7920501) **3.10 Jack Reed: A Search for Justice** (1995) (8570872) **4.40 The Borrowers** (1973) (9868899)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Thunder Birds (1942) (76318471) **7.40 A Girl Must Live** (1939) (3952075) **9.00 Little Norse Prince Valiant** (1995) (16723) **10.30 Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?** (1957) (82029) **12.00 Bandit's Silver Angel** (1994) (50907) **2.00pm The Vengeance of She** (1967) (81758) **4.00 Little Norse Prince Valiant** (1995) (5433) **6.00 Born to be Wild** (1995) (111181) **7.30 Special Feature** (1723) **8.00 Jack and Sarah** (1995) (16689) **10.00 Alien** (1979) (56827758) **12.05am Puppmaro** (1994) (181037) **1.50 Second Best** (1994) (248211) **3.35 The Disappearance of Vonnie** (1994) (48977898)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm The Philadelphia Story (1940) (3956549) **8.00 The Three Musketeers** (1974) (3951094) **10.00 Out for Justice** (1991) (9088278) **11.35 The Mean Machine** (1975) (5380520) **1.35am Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde** (1931) (8038650) **3.15 El Greco** (1966) (3625327) **4.50-5.55 The Dancing Masters** (1943) (24988360)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as follows
8.00pm Love Me or Leave Me (1955) (98002278) **11.15 The Naked Spur** (1953) (28934549) **12.50am What a Carve Up!** (1962) (28242360) **2.25-5.00 Love Me or Leave Me** (1955) (76885650)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.
6.00am Mouse Tracks (8274461) **6.25** Quack Attack (5224146) **6.50** Bonkers (3759810) **7.15** Little Mermaid (1070297) **7.40** Aladdin (2356907) **8.05** Goof Troop (3489722) **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa (3747159) **8.40** Care Bears (1840655) **9.10** Groundhog Marsh (2269742) **9.40** Big Garage (8435723) **9.55** Lamb Chop (9257891) **10.25** Muppet Babies (5318891) **10.50** Dumbo's Circus (1259278) **11.20** Mouse Tracks (4896433) **11.50** Pooh Corner (1384568) **12.20pm** Timon and Pumbaa (8309023) **12.35** Little Mermaid (6851810) **1.00** Best of Disney (63521723) **1.25** Goof Troop (40697384) **1.50** Aladdin (62068433) **2.10** Darkwing Duck (53319839) **2.35** Bonkers (5148075) **3.00** Quack Attack (8138015) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (4191636) **3.35** Goof Troop (5181838) **4.00** Tuesday is Chooseday (8079) **6.00** Flash Forward (8075) **6.30** Boy Meets World (2805) **7.00** Dave's World (4742) **7.30** **FILM: Resting Place** (95618) **9.00** Tarzan (37433) **9.30-10.00** Golden Girls (82487)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Three Little Ghosts (55227233) **6.30** Inspector Gadget (7723471) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (6871487) **7.30** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (6787094) **8.00** Masked Rider (7786636) **8.30** Crocadoo (7764907) **9.00** Rimba's Island (5029758) **9.25** Why Why Family (2525758) **9.30** Zoobilee Zoo (3122346) **9.55** Why Why Family (6687556) **10.00** Rimba's Island (9932623) **10.25** Why Why Family (5371365) **10.30** Zoobilee Zoo (93005346) **10.55** Why Why Family (92157810) **11.00** Princess Sarah (2216162) **11.30** Pinocchio (2217891) **12.00** Billy the Cat (7768723) **12.30pm** VR Troopers (29228297) **12.50** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (29275105) **1.10** Masked Rider (25804013) **1.30** Ace Ventura (5550452) **2.00** Casper (48103665) **2.30** Life With Louie (5908556) **3.00** Eek-Stravaganza (4822100) **3.30** Ace Ventura (2823591) **4.00** Casper (1203948) **4.30** Power Rangers (50031100) **5.00** Masked Rider (4801617) **5.30** Spiderman (1308592) **6.00** Goosebumps (45558015) **6.30-7.00** Sweet Valley High (8584597)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (32013) **7.30** Rebel Sports (11520) **8.00** Tartan Extra (46742) **8.30** Racing News (45013) **9.00** Sports Centre (36365) **9.30** Cricket (677297) **12.30pm** Football (38549) **2.30** Spanish Football (30636) **4.30** Sea TV (55568) **4.59** Sports Centre (62329888) **5.00** Wrestling (3471) **6.00** Sports Centre (6433) **6.30** Football Hall of Fame (5833) **7.00** Cricket (144384) **10.00** Sports Centre (20758) **10.30** Footballers' Football Show (201100) **11.30** Football Hall of Fame (81891) **12.00** Sports Centre (99259) **12.30am** Sports Unlimited (28018) **1.30** Footballers' Football Show (43563) **2.30-3.00** Sports Centre (63679)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Live Cricket (68766365) **3.30pm** NHL (631610994) **5.30** Tartan Extra (83977742) **6.00** Sports Unlimited (56790297) **7.00** *Sports Centre* (70821520) **7.30** NBA (47038920) **9.30-11.30** NHL (81226013)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Olympic Magazine (13988) **8.00** Ski Special (76617) **9.00** Speedworld (97452) **11.00** Eurogoals (22636) **12.00** 24 Hour Endurance Race from Daytona (41297) **12.30pm** Snowboarding ISF World Boardercross Tour (78839) **1.00** Funsports (26452) **1.30** Snowboarding (608101) **2.00** Beach Soccer World Championship (88704) **3.00** Snooker: European Open (17549) **5.00** Darts: European Grand Prix (5839) **6.00** Bobsleigh World Cup (59758) **7.00** Strongman (20617) **8.00** Boxing — Live (33181) **10.00** UEFA Cup Quarter Finals (47520) **11.30-12.30** Equestrianism (61159)

Classic drama of life above and below stairs (Granada Plus, 8pm)

GRANADA PLUS

8.00am Krypton Factor (21688810) **6.30** It's Fun to Read (99848549) **6.45** The Magic Ball (15162384) **7.00** Alphabet Zoo (4663617) **7.15** It's Fun to Read (5079181) **7.30** Jackson Pace (60218810) **8.00** Classic Coronation St (43258797) **8.30** Families (4227568) **9.00** The Professionals (2557758) **10.00** On the Buses (7329807) **10.30** Brass (4207704) **11.00** Within These Walls (6110758) **12.00** Classic Coronation St (4221384) **12.30pm** Families (7193704) **1.00** Crown Court (66188346) **1.30** Krypton Factor (71920757) **2.00** Bust (73246636) **3.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (1119810) **4.00** The Doctor Series In Charge (6366568) **4.30** On the Buses (6358462) **5.00** The Professionals (6436094) **6.00** Families (6343617) **6.30** Classic Coronation St (6362297) **7.00** The Doctor Series In Charge (6437723) **7.30** Brass (6356181) **8.00** Upstairs Downstairs (7834520) **9.00** Classic Coronation St (2252075) **9.35** Good Life Guide (2025568) **10.00-11.00** The Professionals (7867471) **From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors**

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From **8.00am-9.00** TV High Street
From **9.00-12.00** Food and Wine
From **12.00-3.00pm** Health and Beauty
From **3.00-6.00** Home and Garden

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography: Jules Verne (8533758) **5.00** History Alive (3109181) **6.00** Our Century (6648926) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Henry Kissinger (4831617)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Amazing Stories (3299758) **8.30** Twilight Zone (3105365) **9.00** Secrets of the Paranormal (8459742) **9.30** The Web (1904094) **10.30** New Edge (4462617) **11.00** The Invaders (6521655) **12.00** The Incredible Hulk (9873969) **1.00am** Twilight Zone (1377785) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (3490495) **2.00** 100 Years of Horror (2428829) **2.30** Night Gallery (5868196) **3.00-4.00** Friday the 13th (1191196)

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Painting (2482758) **8.30** Grow Your Own (2122365) **10.00** Two's Country Cooking (4789926) **10.30** Our House (2308742) **11.00** Fit It (5848655) **11.30** This Old House with Steve and Norm (5849384) **12.00** Simply Delicious Versatile Vegetables (2399094) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (2128181) **1.00** Today's Gourmet (8638100) **1.30** Home Again with Bob Vila (2125452) **2.00** Hometime (4875433) **2.30** Furniture to Go (8707100) **3.00** Two's Country (4694588) **3.30-4.00** This Old House with Steve and Norm (8788617) **DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.** **4.00pm** Fishing Adventures II (8798452) **4.30** Bush Tucker Man (8794536) **5.00** Treasure Hunters (4699013) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (6785988) **6.00** Wild Things (2134100) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (4686549) **7.30** Wonders of Weather (8795385) **8.00** Robot Warriors (3967162) **9.00** Extreme Machines (3987926) **10.00** 21st-Century Airport (2390723) **10.30** Mysterious Universe (2309471) **11.00** The Professionals (8825549) **12.00** *Seawings* (2034308) **1.00am** Roadshow (4704056) **1.30-2.00** The Extremists (8342766)

UK GOLD

7.00am Tellystack (6045549) **7.35** Neighbours (9973029) **8.00** Crossroads (1565704) **8.25** EastEnders (9836636) **9.00** The Bill (2388988) **9.30** Bread (2124723) **10.00** Never the Twain (4781384) **10.30** The Sullivans (2300100) **11.00** Kinsey (8636742) **12.00** Crossroads (2391452) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2135839) **1.00** EastEnders (1272015) **1.35** The Les Dawson Show (4797128) **2.20** The Mistress (3094051) **3.00** Tellystack (4696926) **3.30** The Bill (8788075) **4.00** All Creatures Great and Small (5831365) **5.00** Bob's Full House (2617687) **5.40** Crossroads (6838433) **6.05** EastEnders (3472098) **6.40** Ever Decreasing Circles (3920926) **7.20** Man About the House (7811384) **7.50** Are You Being Served? (1820162) **8.30** Russ Abbot (4676162) **9.00** The Bill (5837549) **9.30** Boon (10929297) **10.30** Love Thy Neighbour (5813433) **11.10** The Best of Top of the Pops (1205452) **11.55 FILM: Doctor In Distress** (2557742) **1.40am** The Album Show (7580263) **2.30** Shopping (2765501)

TCC

6.00am Anne of Green Gables/Road to Avonlea (79655) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (37181) **7.30** Dennis the Menace (23988) **8.00** Batman (82568) **8.30** Art Attack (81899) **9.00** Flash Gordon (85891) **9.30** Bobby's World (21051) **10.00** Romuald the Reindeer (97075) **10.30** Robinson Sucroe (61075) **11.00** Danger Mouse (53471) **11.30** Gravedale High (54100) **12.00** Oscar's Orchestra (85655) **12.30pm** Halfway Across the Galaxy (12297) **1.00** By Way of the Stars (36452) **1.30** Black Beauty (11568) **2.00** Girl From Tomorrow (61000) **2.30** Ocean Odyssey (1520) **3.00** Art Attack (2907) **3.30** Flash Gordon (3365) **4.00** Batman (5100) **4.30** The Big Dish (1384)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Killer Tomatoes (43758) **6.30** Count Duckula (12377) **7.00** Rocko (9910100) **7.15** Hey Arnold! (6025452) **7.30** Rugrats (19162) **8.00** Doug (44384) **8.30** Arthur (43655) **9.00** Children's BBC (34907) **9.30** Children's BBC (70297) **10.00** Wimzie's House (90549) **10.30** Babar (23681) **11.00** Magic School Bus (16297) **11.30** Henry's Cat/Wil Cwac Cwac/Lizzie's Library/Topsey and Tim/Jimbo (16925) **12.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (47471) **12.30pm** Little Bear Stories (97116) **6.55** Prize Time (133597) **7.05** Sale of the Century (915520) **7.30** Prize Time (601100) **7.40** Gives Us a Clue (185452) **8.10** Prize Time (217610) **8.20** All Clued Up (826820) **8.50** Prize Time (236836) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (447758) **9.25** Prize Time (726655) **9.35** Busman's Holiday (332487) **10.00** Prize Time (826181) **10.05** Treasure Hunt (727384) **11.05** Prize Time (748452) **11.20** Love at First Sight (582100) **11.45** Prize Time (632452) **12.00** Sale of the Century (18637) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (64834) **1.30** Lou Grant (96679) **2.30** Snowy River: The McGregor Saga (75269) **3.30** All Together Now (90747) **4.00-5.00** Fall Guy (39972)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm E UK (2742) **7.30** Roseanne (4839) **8.00** Roseanne (8162) **8.30** Monty Python's Flying Circus (7297) **9.00** Cheers (95433) **9.30** Taxi (61548) **10.00** It's Garry Shandling's Show (48100) **10.30** Frasier (24520) **11.00** Modern Problems in Science (84536) **11.30** Monty Python's Flying Circus (89433) **12.00** Nurses (80501) **12.30am** Soap (41124) **1.00** Cheers (22740) **1.30** Taxi (20389) **2.00** E UK (75414) **2.30** Modern Problems in Science (54921) **3.00** Frasier (94478) **3.30-4.00** It's Garry Shandling's Show (78501)

BRAVO

8.00pm *Robocop* (3961988) **9.00** *Burning Zone* (3974452)



MOTOR RACING 46
Stewart adding polish to his uncut diamond

SPORT

GOLF 50
Why Faldo finds the Riviera to his liking



Newcastle's resources stretched

Dalglish must strike the right balance

BY ROB HUGHES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

NEWCASTLE United will have to forget all about being Magpies and summon the pride of wounded lions if they are to give English football the impetus to get through this week, the first in 12 seasons in which it has had a team in the quarter-finals of each of the three European competitions.

At St James' Park, in the Uefa Cup, Newcastle face AS Monaco, a team buoyant and top of the French League, and full of resolve and confidence after beating German opposition, Borussia Mönchengladbach and SV Hamburg, in the away legs of the two previous rounds. Newcastle must knock that confidence out of them without Alan Shearer, who is injured, without Faustino Asprilla, who is unluckily suspended, and very likely without Les Ferdinand, whose damaged hamstring is not responding to treatment.

So Kenny Dalglish, the manager, on his 46th birthday, is without a complete forward line that cost £28.5 million. It was not his fault that Darren Huckerby was sent to Coventry before Dalglish took over on January 14 and the consequences may not be his responsibility if he has to ask Steve Watson, a defender, to throw his weight and willingness about up front, with Peter Beardsley as a guide.

Of course, the style and approach on Tyneside has changed. Instead of being cavalier, they are cagey: instead of Kevin Keegan, there is Dalglish.

So, inevitably, one does not know what he intends. He could confound the French with a French maverick of his own and call in David Ginola, giving the winger the role of centre forward and match-winner. Jean Tigana, a magnificent France international in his time and now a quality coach, was a willing provocateur yesterday. It is "irrelevant", he shrugged, whether Ginola takes the field or not: the only thing Monaco fear is the dead ball, the free kicks and corners that are English attributes and French weaknesses.

However, it is a Scot who holds the key, and Dalglish has never been one for letting his players know what is on his mind, let alone the public or the opposition. Thus, last night, Ginola was a confused individual. "If the manager doesn't want to put me in the team, then maybe I have to say goodbye, though I stress maybe," he said. "If I don't play, it will be a real shame for me because I want to be involved. I never came to Newcastle to be a substitute. I don't want to put pressure on the manager, I don't want to think too hurriedly about my future, and I wouldn't mind playing centre forward if I could help the team that way."

Fans seek cash penalty 3
Bobby Robson 48
Sunderland's struggle ... 48

He sounds, does he not, somewhat desperate? His manager, enigmatic as ever, gives nothing away. "My feelings for David Ginola are exactly the same as they were before Saturday's match," Dalglish said of the player he used as a second-half substitute in the defeat against Southampton. "He is obviously a very talented player. Everyone knows that he did OK when he came on. Sometimes you're forced by circumstances to gamble, and if I'm in that situation, I will."

The implication is that Dalglish may gamble with the flesh rather than the spirit, that he will wait to the eleventh hour in the hope that Ferdinand will rise off the treatment table and rise above the French.

Monaco, too, have a hamstring doubt. Their Scotsman, John Collins, who pined in his youth to come south of the border and play for Newcastle, has been having acupuncture treatment for two months, 20 needles twice a day, to enable him to function in midfield. If the French are not also foxing, he is more doubtful this morning than he was last weekend.

Yet Collins is eager to play in front of 36,000 people rather than the 3,000 who sometimes attend Monaco's home club matches at their resplendent Louis II Stadium. A team with gates lower than Wimbledon, with salaries higher than those of kings, has had ambition thrust upon it by Tigana, the tenacious one in France's four musketeers of midfield — Platini, Giresse, Fernandez and Tigana — in the 1980s.

Tigana, born in Mali but raised in Marseilles, is one of life's winners. He believes he fields more of the same, particularly in Sonny Anderson, the unlikely-named Brazilian, and Victor Ikpeba, the swift Nigerian.

They have scored eight of the 13 goals Monaco have netted in Europe this season. Anderson would, in any nation other than Brazil, be a fully-fledged international and a respected one abroad.

Just how the Newcastle back four, even with their relentless rehearsals at playing the offside game, will cope with his wiles, could, whoever Newcastle field in attack, hold the key to the future of the North-East club.

There is significance for English football in the game, but greater significance for Newcastle's faltering ambitions and for the great share issue that is imminent on Tyneside. For Dalglish, the first important test of his ability to outwit the opposition and to invent out of adversity is at hand.

GEORGE MULALA



Theirs was an unlikely victory and Colin McRae, right, and Nicky Grist knew it as they they revelled in the flag-waving celebrations that followed their win in the Safari Rally in Nairobi. Despite a high-speed crash on the second day, suffered as McRae swerved to avoid rocks laid by vandals in the path of their Subaru, and a series of electrical problems that dogged their progress on the third and final day, the Britons — McRae from Scotland and Grist from Wales — finished more than seven minutes ahead of the field.

After his first win of the season in the world championship in three attempts, McRae was delighted. "Nobody would have put me down to be the winner, but we have taken it sensibly and reaped the rewards," he said. "Driving here is like nothing in Europe. There, you go flat out, at 100 per cent all the time. Here, it is about going at a speed that isn't going to break the car. It's a tough one."

Grist, his co-driver, was simply relieved to finish: "The alternator failed at one point today so we turned off the cooling fans and one fuel pump, which made for suspension difficulties. I've never been so worried in any rally in my life."

For the first time in a championship race, British drivers occupied the first two places as Richard Burns finished second, despite driving for most of the final day without a clutch. "The roads are absolutely amazing," he said. "It's just hundreds and hundreds of miles and bumps and pot-holes. I'm just ecstatic to finish second in one piece."

With Tommi Makinen, of Finland, the world champion, Carlos Sainz, of Spain, and Kenneth Eriksson, of Sweden, all failing to last the course, McRae went to the top of the drivers' championship, with 13 points, one ahead of Sainz.

Results and standings, page 46

Home and away day beats fixture congestion

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TWO Argentinian clubs were involved in a bizarre case of fixture congestion on Sunday, when they each played two games in two different countries on the same day.

Velez Sarsfield and Racing Club met each other in the Argentine championship in Buenos Aires, then took part in fixtures in the Libertadores Cup — the South American club championship — in Ecuador later the same day.

Oswaldo Piazza, the Velez coach, opted to send his first team to Ecuador, where they played against Emelec in Guayaquil. Alfio Basile, his opposite number, decided that the domestic match was more important and fielded a strong side against Velez before employing reserve and youth team players against Nacional, in Quito.

Racing, who have not won the Argentine title for 31 years, beat an understrength Velez team 2-1 to claim their first win of the present championship. They then lost 2-0 to Nacional, a result that left them bottom of Libertadores Cup group two. Velez beat Emelec 3-2 to go second in the same group.

Fixture congestion has become a widespread problem in South American football, with a plethora of competitions organised at continental, national and — in Brazil — regional level.

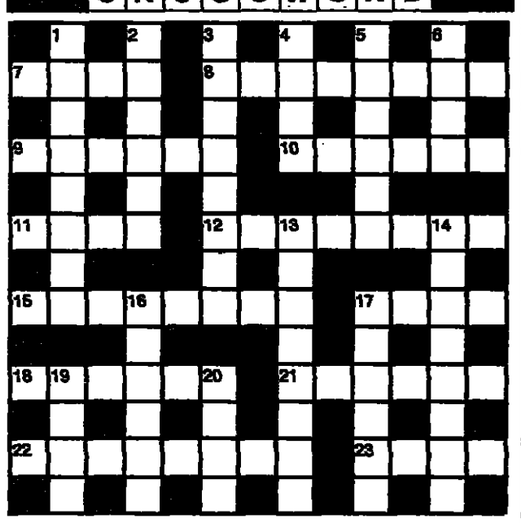
Coaches are often forced to take calculated risks by fielding reserve teams against opponents. Mexico played a crucial World Cup qualifying match on Sunday — while the country's national championship continued with six games taking place almost immediately afterwards.

Last month, the problem again reached absurd proportions as Cruzeiro, of Brazil, played two matches in one night at their stadium in Belo Horizonte.

Italy underlined confidence in their ability to qualify for the World Cup finals in France with an announcement yesterday that the next domestic season will finish a month earlier than usual.

The 1997-98 Serie A season will begin on August 31 and end on May 10, giving the World Cup squad a month to prepare for the finals. Italy lead group two after victory over England at Wembley last month.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1032

ACROSS
7 An adhesive (4)
8 Of armorial science (8)
9 One on foot (6)
10 (Esp. Cornish) fairies (6)
11 Satellite (4)
12 Nietzsche's top person (8)
15 Memento (8)
17 Sin; substitute (4)
18 Unfree persons (6)
21 Mental health (6)
22 Fabled treasure city (2,6)
23 Nipple (4)

DOWN
1 Prohibition-era gangster (2,6)
2 Indicate to approach (6)
3 Personal magnetism (8)
4 Let fall (4)
5 Magical remedy (6)
6 Rasp; dossier (4)
13 Journalists' enclosure (5,3)
14 Calif. prison, had Birdman (8)
16 Conditioned-reflex researcher (6)
17 Conceit; pointlessness (6)
19 Wonderful thing: Berg opera (4)
20 G B —, *Man and 12* author (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1031

ACROSS: 1 Red Cross 5 Palm 9 Serve one right 10 Gyro 11 Iceberg 13 Adrift 15 Past it 18 Officer 20 Anne 23 The devil to pay 24 Dote 25 Bardolph

DOWN: 1 Rust 2 Dirty 3 Reel off 4 Sin bin 6 Augment 7 Mitigate 8 Free 12 Garotted 14 Reflect 16 Adapted 17 Troika 19 Chef 21 Nepal 22 Myth

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South Africa game breaks new ground for England

GLENN HODDLE, the England coach, will break new ground when he selects a side to play South Africa in a football international for the first time, on May 24. The match will be played at Old Trafford, because Wembley Stadium will be hosting the Nationwide League divisional play-offs on that weekend.

The match has been arranged to help Hoddle to prepare for England's group two World Cup qualifying match away to Poland a week later. "We're delighted to be playing South Africa and it will be a historic match," Hoddle said. "They are a growing nation and are getting stronger and stronger as a footballing power. Many of their top players are based in Europe, and they have a lot of talent."

South Africa won the African Nations' Cup in February last year and, since then, their only defeat in six matches has been 3-2 against Brazil, the world champions. They stand at No 23 in the world rankings issued by Fifa, football's world governing body.

The last time that England played a home game away from Wembley, they drew 3-3 with Sweden at Elland Road, Leeds, during the Umbro Cup tournament in 1995. Three internationals have been played in Manchester this century and, on choosing Manchester United's ground for the South Africa game, Steve Double, the FA spokesman, said: "The attraction of its 55,000 capacity and its success as a Euro 96 venue means we're delighted to use Old Trafford."

Rich talent helps Slaney to turn back the clock

David Powell on an athlete seeking to cash in on enduring qualities in Paris

Way back then it seemed a ludicrous amount of money to pay two athletes to race, and two women at that. However, in 1985, American and British television offered Zola Budd £90,000 to run 3,000 metres at Crystal Palace against Mary Decker-Slaney, who received £60,000.

Shamateurism had died a few years earlier but the athletics authorities were still not comfortable with professionalism and the money was paid into trust funds rather than bank accounts. Twelve years later, the embrace of open professionalism squeezes ever tighter. This week, for the first time, prize-money will be paid at the world indoor championships, starting in Paris on Friday.

As if that is not enough, there will be bonuses for world records and among the athletes who will be seeking the maximum $100,000 (about £62,000) pay-out for victory with a world-best performance will be Slaney, who is attempting to become the first woman to break the four-minute barrier for 1,500 metres indoors. This in her fourth year as a classified veteran.

If successful, her bank account will swell by more than her trust fund did on that day at Crystal Palace in 1985 during an era in which she was famous for her stunning victories over the mighty eastern Europeans. What seemed silly money in the Eighties has become routine now.

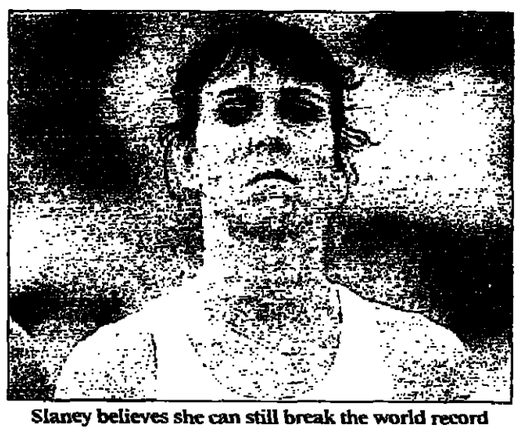
No less remarkable than her successes then was her victory in the United States indoor championships in Atlanta last weekend, when she ran to within three seconds of the women's 1,500 metres world record. Her time of 4min 03.08sec, was the fastest in the world for seven years.

It is not unrealistic for Slaney to claim, as she has this week: "At the moment I feel I could run under four minutes. There is a good chance that the world record is in jeopardy." Aged 38, 24 years after becoming the youngest United States international, she is enjoying her sport as much as ever. Still going after all these years because she is, she says, "stubborn".

Married to the former British discus thrower, Richard Slaney, who carried his bride-to-be away from the track after the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic debacle when she crashed to the floor in a collision with Budd, her career has been interrupted repeatedly. In 1986 she became a mother and, in 1987, injuries began to claim her. She lost count, she said, of the number of operations she had undergone between her eighteenth and twentieth.

One more world record now would revive memories of yesteryear, when she set them at a prolific rate. The first International Amateur Athletic Federation world championships, in 1983, seem in the distant past but the world leader of today was a champion back then. "Double Decker", the headlines screamed after she won the 1,500 metres and 3,000 metres.

"I feel like my old self again," she said at the US championships. "I can go out and be aggressive and not run out of steam. Since I began treatment for my asthma there has been a big change. I feel a lot more confident." And the $100,000 incentive is better than any pension plan.



Slaney believes she can still break the world record

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